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OM SHREE GURU BASAVALINGAYA NAMAHA

HIREMATH SAMSTHAN VIDYAPEETH TRUST(R), BHALKI

SHRI CHANNABASAVESHWAR GURUKUL RESIDENTIAL PU SCIENCE COLLEGE, KARDYAL

TQ. BHALKI - DIST. BIDAR - KARNATAKA

GURUKUL MAKES A LANDMARK VICTORY IN NEET-2024

CONGRATULATIONS

SANJANA
MARKS-691

KIRANKUMAR
MARKS-685

ARYAN
MARKS-680

VERENDRA
MARKS-675

VARDHAN
MARKS-671

SAKSHI
MARKS-671

RAM
MARKS-671

ABHISHEK
MARKS-667

ABHINAV
MARKS-665

SANTOSHI
MARKS-665

ADINATH
MARKS-665

AKASH
MARKS-665

VARUN
MARKS-665

ADITY
MARKS-660

ANAGHA
MARKS-656

SUMEET
MARKS-655

PRAJWAL
MARKS-648

VAISHNAVI
MARKS-644

AVINASH
MARKS-642

AKSHATA
MARKS-641

BHARAT
MARKS-640

SANDHYA
MARKS-635

POOJA
MARKS-630

ADARSH
MARKS-629

VISHAL
MARKS-628

SPOORTHI
MARKS-627

MANJUNATH
MARKS-625

TANUSHREE
MARKS-621

PRAGATI
MARKS-621

HARSHITHA
MARKS-619

YUVARAJ
MARKS-618

ADITYA
MARKS-618

SNEHA
MARKS-618

DEEPAK
MARKS-616

ASPIYA
MARKS-615

MAHESH
MARKS-615

BHUMIKA
MARKS-614

SHIVANAGU
MARKS-613

OMNAGESH
MARKS-612

SHESHANK
MARKS-609

PRAGATI
MARKS-608

RAMYA
MARKS-607

BASAVAPRASAD
MARKS-605

SAKSHI
MARKS-605

VAIBHAVI
MARKS-605

SHRUTI
MARKS-605

RAKSHITA
MARKS-603

PRATHVIRAJ
MARKS-603

SHASHANK
MARKS-603

NANADKUMAR
MARKS-603

ANUPAMAJYOTHI
MARKS-602

PRAJWAL
MARKS-602

SNEHA
MARKS-601

ADITYA
MARKS-601

MD. SIDDIK
MARKS-600

ADARSHKUMAR
MARKS-600

BASAVARAJ
MARKS-600

SONALI
MARKS-600

GIRIRAJ
MARKS-600

SOUMYA
MARKS-600

SANGANABASAVA
MARKS-599

SNEHAL
MARKS-597

PRARTHANA
MARKS-596

SAINATH
MARKS-595

SHANTIPRIYA
MARKS-595

SHANKAR
MARKS-595

PRABHU
MARKS-593

SHARANABASAVA
MARKS-592

BALBHEEM
MARKS-592

NISHA
MARKS-592

DEEPAK
MARKS-591

ANISH
MARKS-591

NIRANJAN
MARKS-590

ANUJ
MARKS-590

CHIDRUP
MARKS-589

AISHWARYA
MARKS-588

SACHIN
MARKS-588

VISHNU
MARKS-586

VEERESH
MARKS-585

AMBIKA
MARKS-585

VISHNUKANTH
MARKS-583

SANDESH
MARKS-583

SONY
MARKS-583

NANDINI
MARKS-583

SHREYASH
MARKS-582

RAGHAVENDRA
MARKS-582

ANAND
MARKS-580

NISARGA
MARKS-578

SATYAKKA
MARKS-576

PRAVEENKUMAR
MARKS-570

SHIVAM
MARKS-569

SHRUSHTI
MARKS-569

KARUNASAGAR
MARKS-568

VEERENDRA
MARKS-567

DNYANESHWAR
MARKS-567

SHIVAKUMAR
MARKS-566

SHRISHANT
MARKS-565

SUMIT
MARKS-564

DEVYANI
MARKS-564

KRISHNA
MARKS-564

GURUKUL NEET 2024 RESULT ANALYSIS

670+ MARKS	650+ MARKS	625+ MARKS	600+ MARKS	550+ MARKS	500+ MARKS
07 STUDENTS	16 STUDENTS	27 STUDENTS	60 STUDENTS	187 STUDENTS	232 STUDENTS

ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR

NEET (REPEATERS) LONG TERM BATCH-2024-25

CONTACT : 8147740402, 9482955660, 7353304503

Website : www.cbgurukul.in

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STRENGTHENING TIES

Jaishankar meets leaders from the neighbourhood

NEWS » PAGE 12

CLOSE CONTEST

South Africa pulls off an exciting win

SPORT » PAGE 17

LONG-STANDING DEMAND

Why India needs a third aircraft carrier

Building IAC-2 will fulfil the Navy's requirement

OPINION » PAGE 11

With no change of guard in key Ministries, PM signals continuity

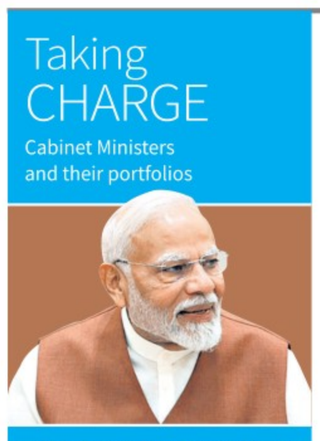
- Modi allocates portfolios a day after new Ministry assumed charge
- Amit Shah retains Home, Rajnath Singh Defence, Nirmala Finance
- Jaishankar back at the helm in the External Affairs Ministry

Nistula Hebbar
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday sent out a message of continuity in governance with Ministers handling key portfolios unchanged from his previous Ministry.

The four big Ministries that are part of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) – a key body within the Union Cabinet – saw the return of all the Ministers with Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nirmala Sitharaman and S. Jaishankar retaining the portfolios of Home, Defence, Finance, and External Affairs, respectively.

Mr. Modi, who needs the support of allies to lead the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government, left key infrastructure Ministries largely unchanged. While Nitin Gadkari retained Road Transport and Highways, Sarbananda Sonowal retained Shipping and Ports, and Ashwini Vaishnaw Railways, along with Information Technology and Information and Broadcasting.



Taking CHARGE
Cabinet Ministers and their portfolios

■ **NARENDRA MODI:** Prime Minister and also in-charge of Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space; all important policy issues; and all other portfolios not allocated to any Minister

- **Rajnath Singh:** Defence
- **Amit Shah:** Home Affairs; and Cooperation
- **Nitin Gadkari:** Road Transport and Highways
- **J.P. Nadda:** Health and Family Welfare; and Chemicals and Fertilizers
- **Shivraj Singh Chouhan:** Agriculture & Farmers Welfare; and Rural Development
- **Nirmala Sitharaman:** Finance; and Corporate Affairs
- **S. Jaishankar:** External Affairs
- **Manohar Lal:** Housing and Urban Affairs; and Power
- **H.D. Kumaraswamy:** Heavy Industries; and Steel
- **Piyush Goyal:** Commerce and Industry
- **Dharmendra Pradhan:** Education
- **Jitan Ram Manjhi:** Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- **Rajiv Ranjan Singh:** Panchayati Raj; and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- **Sarbananda Sonowal:** Ports, Shipping & Waterways
- **Virendra Kumar:** Social Justice and Empowerment
- **K. Rammohan Naidu:** Civil Aviation
- **Pralhad Joshi:** Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and New and Renewable Energy.
- **Jual Oram:** Tribal Affairs
- **Giriraj Singh:** Textiles
- **Ashwini Vaishnaw:** Railways; Information and Broadcasting; and Electronics and Information Technology
- **Jyotiraditya Scindia:** Communications; and Development of North Eastern Region
- **Bhupender Yadav:** Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- **Gajendra Singh Shekhawat:** Culture; Tourism
- **Annpurna Devi:** Women and Child Development
- **Kiren Rijiju:** Parliamentary Affairs; and Minority Affairs
- **Hardeep Singh Puri:** Petroleum and Natural Gas
- **Mansukh Mandaviya:** Labour and Employment; and Youth Affairs and Sports
- **G. Kishan Reddy:** Coal; and Mines
- **Chirag Paswan:** Food Processing Industries
- **C.R. Patil:** Jal Shakti

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12
MORE REPORTS
» PAGE 13

NEARBY

Cong. leaders discuss BBMP poll preparation

BENGALURU
Amidst the recent poll debacle in Bengaluru for the Congress, the party appears to be treading a cautious path by launching preparation well in advance for the BBMP council polls, the date for which is yet to be decided. » Page 4

Five arrested for stabbing two BJP workers

MANGALURU
The Konaje police on Monday arrested five persons on charges of stabbing two BJP workers while they were returning after celebrating the swearing-in of Narendra Modi on Sunday night. » Page 6

2 injured as Manipur CM's security convoy attacked

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

An advance security convoy of Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh was ambushed by unidentified miscreants in Kangpokpi district on Monday, leaving two police personnel injured, police said.

The convoy was on its way to violence-hit Jiribam to assess the security situation ahead of Mr. Singh's visit to the district.

Mr. Singh, who reached Imphal on Monday after attending the swearing-in ceremony of the Union Cabinet in Delhi, termed the incident a "direct attack on the people of the State".

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Manipur Chief Minister Biren Singh visiting the injured security personnel in a hospital in Imphal on Monday. X/@NBIRENSINGH

Several take refuge in Assam amid violence

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

More than 600 people have fled Jiribam of Manipur to seek shelter in Cachar district of Assam amid fresh violence, said officials in Barak Valley.

FULL REPORT
» PAGE 12

4,000 migrant workers in Manipur given security: Biren

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said his government was providing security to nearly 4,000 migrant labourers working in the State.

In an interview with *The Hindu*, Mr. Singh said the security of the labourers from Bihar and Jharkhand was a priority. The decision follows the killing of Shriram Hansda, 42, an Adivasi from Jharkhand on May 18. It was one of the first targeted attacks reported against people from outside the State during the ongoing violence.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Centrists humbled, far-right surges as 4-day EU polls end

Associated Press
BRUSSELS

A four-day election has shaken the foundations of the European Union (EU), with the far-right rocking ruling parties in France and Germany, the bloc's traditional driving forces.

French President Emmanuel Macron called snap national elections after Marine Le Pen's National Rally humbled his pro-European centrists in the polls. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's Social Democrats also suffered as the extreme-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) shrugged off scandals to make massive gains.

In Italy, the party of Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, which has neo-fascist roots, won more than 28% of the national vote for the EU Assembly, which would make it a key player in forming future alliances.

Green and pro-business liberal groups across Europe suffered heavy defeats, but mainstream formations held their ground, with the centre-right European People's Party (EPP) remaining the biggest bloc in the 27-nation EU Assembly.

MACRON CALLS SNAP POLLS
» PAGE 16

LeT involvement suspected in Reasi bus attack; probe on

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Multiple operations were launched on Monday to track at least two or three Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militants involved in an attack on a bus in the Pouni area of Reasi in Jammu and Kashmir, which left nine pilgrims dead and over 33 injured on Sunday.

Official sources said the early inputs analysed by the security agencies point to the involvement of three non-local LeT militants. A fourth accomplice, suspected to be a local, "could have acted as a lookout for the three terrorists".

"According to the analysis and other clues, we think that Lashkar is involved in this," said Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Udhampur, Reasi Range, Rayees Bhat.

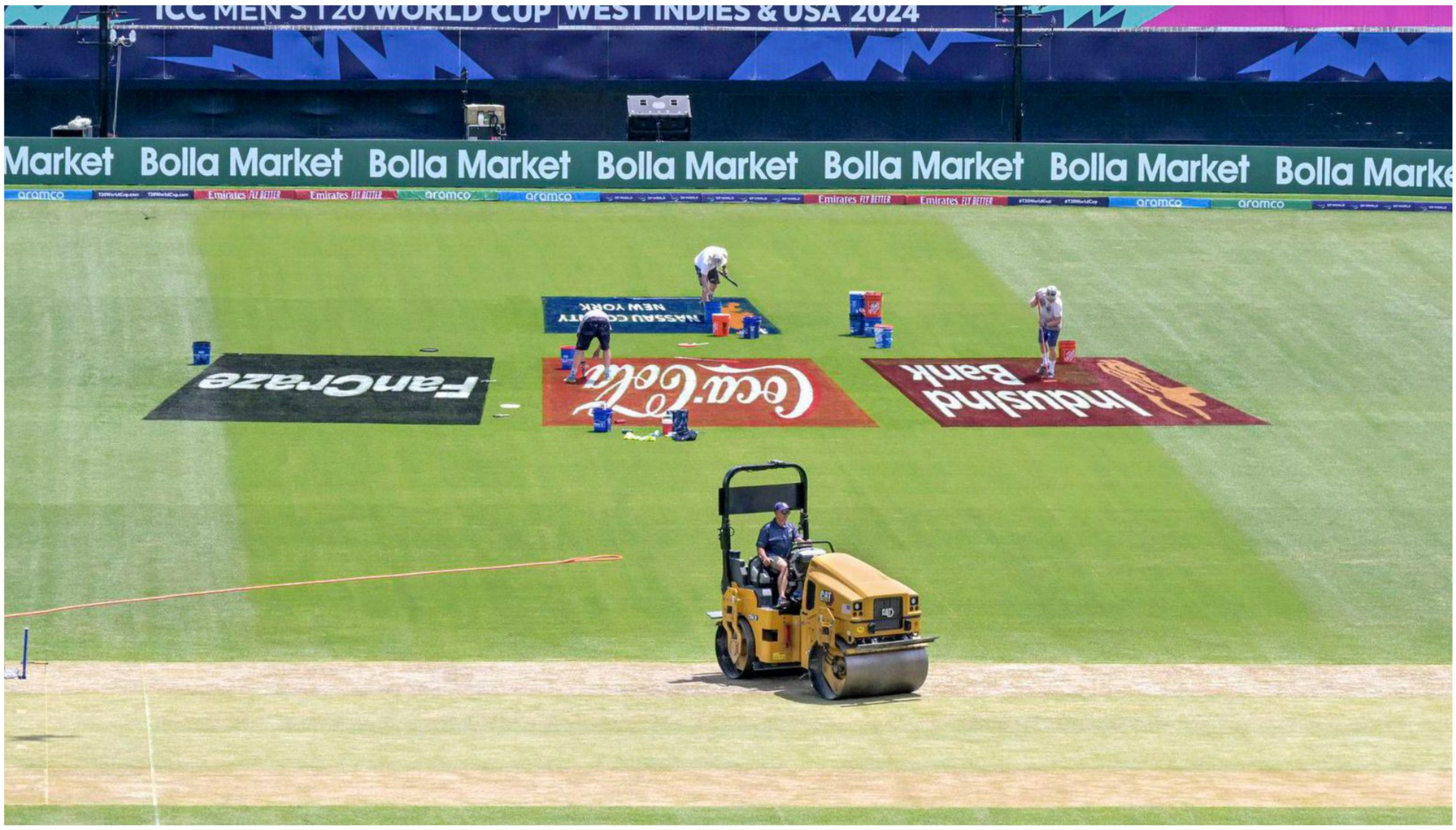
Eleven teams fanned out on Monday to track the movement of militants and establish more leads by questioning local people.

"Searches have been launched following multiple leads. All the forces are operating jointly. A lot of people have been called for questioning," Mr. Bhat said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

Look what the cat dragged in: the curious case of drop-in pitches

The events at the Nassau County Stadium in New York showed us that while it's alright to be ambitious and desirous of spreading the great game, it is imperative that basic requirements are addressed with diligence and common sense to avoid red-faced embarrassment



K.R. DEEPAK

R. Kaushik

Every once in a while, depending on what the flavour of the season is, a word or a phrase hogs the limelight. For the first ten days of the T20 World Cup currently under way in the United States and the Caribbean islands, that term is 'drop-in pitches'.

Drop-in pitches might give the impression of being a fanciful entity, literally dropped in at the match venue to help proceedings get underway. In reality, they are not too different in preparation from surfaces at the ground itself, except that they are grown in a controlled, lab-like environment and integrated with its surroundings for various reasons.

Pitch perfect

Pitch preparation is both an art and a science, though even the most acclaimed of curators will admit to a certain apprehension until play gets underway and the character of the playing surface comes to the fore. No matter how assiduous the preparation and how careful the process has been, several factors influence how a strip behaves, among them the nature of the soil, the climatic conditions and the constituents of the pitch. Over time, curators use their familiarity with a particular city/ground to try and provide the perfect possible surface.

What is a perfect surface, one might ask. To a large extent, that depends on the format. Greg Chappell, the former Australian captain and India's head coach for nearly two years between 2005 and 2007, told this writer a while back that a good Test pitch is one where there is a near-equal balance between bat and ball, with the dice slightly loaded in favour of the latter. For the limited-overs versions, good tracks translate to being able to play shots without fear or inhibition, owing to the fact that the USP of these encounters is the ball sailing into the stands and sending the spectators scurrying for cover.

Drop-in pitches aren't new to cricket, or to international cricket. They are primarily in vogue in the Antipodes, in Australia and New Zealand where not all grounds are dedicated cricket venues. The Adelaide Oval and the iconic Melbourne Cricket Ground, among others, in Australia and New Zealand's Eden Park in Auckland, a traditional Test venue, host Aussie Rules Football and rugby respectively and the wear and tear of these physical sports precludes the possibility of naturally grown, at-venue surfaces. Pitches are therefore 'cultivated' elsewhere and transported to the ground, where they are allowed to blend in with the surroundings. Most of these have decks have facilitated gripping games of cricket, and often passed muster with not so much as an eyebrow being raised.

'Gripping' has been one of the themes during the five matches (till the end of the India-Pakistan encounter) at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium, housed in the gigantic Eisenhower Park here in New York. It hasn't been the only theme, though.

Left it late

Not until September 2023 was the Nassau County Stadium identified by the International Cricket Council as the third of three venues in the United States for the T20 World Cup, alongside the Grand Prairie Stadium in Dallas and the Central Broward Park & Broward County Stadium in Fort Lauderdale. The latter two have built-in pitches, but that wasn't possible at Nassau County because the stadium itself was only constructed in an extraordinary 106 days between January and May this year. There was no option but to make the pitches elsewhere and transport them to New York; that responsibility fell on Damian Hough, the chief curator at the Adelaide Oval, who oversees the pitch preparation at the famed Adelaide Turf International.

So far, so good. Hough oversaw the preparation of ten drop-in pitches to be used for the T20 World Cup – four at the Nassau County Stadium, and the rest, a few miles away, at Cantiague Park. It is the only practice facility for the teams playing in New York. Cantiague Park is a public park – 'It's a bit strange, practising at a public park before a World Cup,' Rahul Dravid, India's head coach, tittered, two days before their tournament opener against Ireland – that currently houses six drop-in pitches, similar to the three that have been used so far for the matches proper.

Not quite the batting bonanza

It's this 'character' that has come in for great scrutiny and no little censure. The World Cup was meant to be a great advertisement for cricket in general, and the 20-over format in particular, in the Land of Opportunity. It was designed to draw the Americans to the sport because for all the involvement of the expat community, if cricket is to take deep root in the American consciousness, it is imperative for the locals to embrace it.

While there have been a slew of thrilling contests and tight finishes, the big scores and the towering sixes, the bread-and-butter of the T20 game, have been conspicuously absent in New York especially. Though it isn't as if the other grounds, both in the US and the Caribbean, have thrown up huge edifices.

More than the absence of humongous totals is how batters have been forced into survival mode in a format that encourages the exact opposite. Coming close on the heels of IPL 2024, when 200 was breached effortlessly and 300 was threatened more than once, the conditions might have come as a pleasant and welcome surprise for the bowling fraternity.

But in private, the bowlers too have admitted that the balance is so heavily tilted in their favour that it has bridged the gulf between teams even more than T20 cricket usually does.

Of all the major sports, cricket is the most dependent on how the playing surface behaves. Agreed, tennis is played on different surfaces too – red (or other shades of) clay is the most preferred, there are hard courts and then carpet-like surfaces used indoors, with grass gradually going out of circulation even if Wimbledon is the most revered of the four Grand Slams. But while the bounce might be unpredictable from time to time on grass, there is a certain trueness about how these surfaces behave that allow players to portray their best, time after time.

In cricket, especially when it comes to Test matches,pitches are doled out based on the traditional bowling strengths of the host nation. That's why in Australia, pace and bounce are integral elements whereas in the subcontinent, dry and abrasive surfaces are the norm because they facilitate turn and reverse swing. Much of the wear and tear transpires organically – teams travelling to Australia know what to expect, as do those that come to India and Sri Lanka.

Into the unknown

New York is uncharted territory for all competing nations, including co-hosts US, and no one can say they are pleased with what they have seen so far. It wasn't until the third match at the Nassau County Stadium that 100 was breached – imagine that – and the highest score in five completed games in 137. South Africa struggled to overhaul Netherlands' 103, while India expertly defended 119 on Sunday against old foes Pakistan. Low-scoring contests throw up as much entertainment as, if not more than, tall-scoring batathons, but when these are accompanied by genuine threat to body and limb, cricket isn't that much fun to watch. Or play, more importantly.

One of the main causes for the misbehaving surfaces is the lack of time for these pitches to 'bed-in'. The ten strips, prepared and encased in steel trays, were shipped from Adelaide to Florida in December – the harsh New York winter meant there was no way they could be dropped in to a stadium yet to be constructed – and moved to New York in April before wending their way to the Nassau County Stadium and Cantiague Park in May. Considering that the only warm-up game at the Nassau County Stadium was on June 1 and its first match of the World Cup was on June 3, the timeline was hardly encouraging.

It isn't merely the slowness or the considerable seam movement that has posed questions galore. The bounce was noticeably unpredictable during the first couple of matches, forcing the normally reticent ICC to go public about remedial measures being undertaken to redress the balance. The surfaces for the last three games have played better in that the threat of bodily harm has greatly reduced, but there is little danger of 200 being approached. That eight matches are being held in a tight 10-day period hasn't helped either; some might say the drop-in pitches have sucked the joy out of the World Cup moving to a potentially exciting country, and they wouldn't be wrong, you know.

Even a fresh at-venue surface needs time to be 'broken-in'. That involves allowing the pitch to settle down in the square, with a fair few matches thrown in to facilitate the integration mechanism. Over a period of weeks, the undulations and the ridges disappear. Time wasn't the ICC's or the Nassau County Stadium's greatest ally in this instance, throwing up a grim reminder that while it's alright to be ambitious and desirous of spreading the great game, it is imperative that basic requirements are addressed with diligence and common sense to avoid red-faced embarrassment.

Once the New York leg concludes on Wednesday, drop-in pitches will fade gently into the deep recesses of memory for most stakeholders. Except for many of the players, who will nurse nasty scars and bruised egos as badges of honour. New York truly has been war minus the shooting.

THE GIST

- Drop-in pitches aren't new to cricket, or to international cricket. They are primarily in vogue in the Antipodes, in Australia and New Zealand where not all grounds are dedicated cricket venues
- One of the main causes for the misbehaving surfaces is the lack of time for these pitches to 'bed-in'
- The unpredictability of the pitch during the first couple of matches, forced the normally reticent ICC to go public about remedial measures being undertaken to redress the balance

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Civil Engineering Department, Central Office, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 560027.

No.BMTC/CO/CE/EE/366/2024-25 Dated: 07.06.2024

E-PROCUREMENT SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO. 01/2024-25

Item rate tender are invited for the work of **Construction of Officer's Quarters at East End , Jayanagar, Bengaluru** , Amount put to tender: **Rs.172.80 Lakhs**, EMD: **Rs. 2,60,000/-**. The tender is invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public procurement ordinance of 2000, and Act 2000, from the Class-I Civil Contractors/Firms registered in Karnataka CPWD/MES and KPWD. In E-procurement the contractors/firms will have to upload all informations documents and rates etc in website only. i.e. **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** No documents will be accepted in person physically.

(1) Last date for receipt of tenders: **24.06.2024** Date of opening of tender: **26.06.2024.** (2) Any other information required can be obtained from the office of the Executive Engineer during working hours or through website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, BMTC.

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD

'JAL BHAVAN', No. 6, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, BTM Layout
Bannerghatta Main Road, Bengaluru - 560 029
Phone : 080-41106504 - 18.
e-mail: cekwbbng@gmail.com website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPPP only)

The following tenders are invited (two cover system) through e-Procurement from eligible Agency/Contractors as detailed below:

1) No.KWB/TEC/CE(B)/TURV UGD-2ND STAGE/187/2024-25 Dtd: 10.6.2024

Name of the work : "Providing Sewer Network of SWG/ UPVC/ RCC NP3 pipe along with House Service Connection and repairs, reconditioning and commissioning of existing sewage Pumpsets and DG sets along with accessories and commissioning under Providing 2nd Stage UGD Scheme to Turvekere" through Design, Build and Transfer (DBT) Mode". **Work Indent No. KUWSDB/2023-24/WS/WORKINDENT 191/ CALL-2**

For further details may be obtained through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER (B), KUWS & D BOARD, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/256/AKAR/2024-25

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಸಣ್ಣ ನೀರಾವರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್ಜಲ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಹಳಿಯಾಳ ವಿಭಾಗ (ಉ.ಕ)

ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: midhly@yahoo.co.in ಫೋ.ನಂ: 08284-220113

ನಂ:ಕಾನಿಅ/ಸನೀವಿಹ/ತಾವಿ/ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್/4702/2024-25/212 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05/06/2024

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್) ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-1, 2 & 3

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿ ನವೀಕರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಐಟಂ ದರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ-2000 ಮತ್ತು ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಂತೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ **KW-1, 2 & 3** (ದ್ವಿ-ಲಕೋಟೆ) ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ "ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನ" ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು: "4702-00-101-1-07-139 ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಆಧುನೀಕರಣ" (4 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ), **"4702-00-101-5-01-139 ಅಣೆಕಟ್ಟು ಮತ್ತು ಪಿಕಪ್ -ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು"** (1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ), **"4702-00-101-3-01-139 ಏತ ನೀರಾವರಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು"** (1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ), **"4711-01-103-1-00-140 ಪ್ರವಾಹ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು"** (1 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ)

ಖಾಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೆಬಸೈಟ್ ವಿಳಾಸ: **"https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in"** ದಲ್ಲಿ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12-06-2024** ರ ನಂತರದಿಂದ ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತಂತೆ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17-06-2024** ರೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಅನುಮಾನಗಳಿದ್ದರೆ ಕಚೇರಿ ಅಥವಾ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಪರಿಹರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19-06-2024 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 05.15** ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20-06-2024 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 05.30** ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಅರ್ಹತಾ ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳನ್ನು **ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ-1,2&3 ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್** ರಲ್ಲಿರುವಂತೆ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ವಿವರಗಳೇ ಅಂತಿಮ.

ವಿ.ಸೂ: ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- (ಬಸವರಾಜ ಎಸ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ್)
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು
ಸಣ್ಣ ನೀರಾವರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ್ಜಲ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಹಳಿಯಾಳ ವಿಭಾಗ (ಉ.ಕ)

DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/23/24-25 Dt.07.06.24

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. 903/SEE/Tr.(W&M)/EE(O)/AEE-1/24-25/CYS-3 Date: 10.06.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites bids against **Bid Enquiry No:** KPTCL/SEE/EE/AEE-1/24-25/110 KV/STN-27/110kV Bellatti/9. For Replacement of 1x10 MVA, 110/11kV transformer by 1x20 MVA, 110/11kV transformer alongwith switchgear at 110kV Bellatti sub-station in Shirahatti Taluk, Gadag District including supply of equipments/materials, erection, civil works, testing and commissioning on Partial Turn Key Basis.

The detailed information regarding enquiry in KPP Portal can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 11.06.2024.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Vidhyuth Nagar, Karwar Road, Hubballi

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited

(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN - UO4010KA2002SGC030438)

Brief Tender Notification (Short term)-CALL-3
(Through KPP Portal)

BESCOM invites bids from the eligible bidders for "Improvements works to Residential 'A' block of JE/AE and 'B' block lineman quarters at C3 sub division, Jalahalli, BESCOM, Bengaluru. Amount put to tender (Including 18% GST): Rs.40,00,000/-. Category: SC/ST. The detailed tender notification regarding details of works, general conditions of contract, NIT, Instructions to Tenderers (ITT), EMD, SD, etc., can be obtained by website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 12.06.2024. Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele)., (Operation & Maintenance), Bengaluru Circle (North) Crescent Towers, Crescent Road , Bengaluru – 560 001.

For electricity related complaints call 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra MOBILE APP

Town Municipal Council Office, Shikaripura-577427

Phone: 08187-22222, 08187-223861
Web: www.shikaripuratown.gov.in
e-mail: itstaff_ulb_shikaripura@yahoo.com

No:ShiPura/Personnel/eTender/M.R.F./01/24-25
Date: 07.06.2024

Tender Notice
(Through Public Procurement Portal of GoK)

Tenders are invited through Procurement Portal of GoK as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000 from eligible contractors registered for the present block in Public Works Department, as per Karnataka Standard Tender Document for below mentioned works under Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 Scheme for establishment of Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) for Dry Waste Management in the limits of Shikaripura Town Municipal Council. Contractors/Agencies interested in participating in the e-procurement tender can obtain further information and details from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and participate in the tender.

Sl.No. 1. Indent Number: DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT 18499 **Amount (in Lakh):** 67.50

*) Last date for obtaining information regarding the Tender: 26.06.2024: Time: at 11.00 AM *) Last date for submission of tender: 26.06.2024: Time: up to 5.30 PM *) Date of opening the Technical Bid of Tender: 28.06.2024: Time: at 10.30 AM *) Date of opening the Financial Bid of Tender: 29.06.2024: Time: at 11.30 AM

Sd/- Chief Officer, Town Municipal Council, Shikaripura

DIPR/smg/No.30/06/ksmca/24-25/66

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Traffic (Com) Department, 2nd Floor, Shanthinagar TTMC,
K.H. Road, Bengaluru-560 027. Tel. No: 080-22537575
E-mail: ctmc@mybmtc.com Website: www.mybmtc.com

No.: BMTC/CO/TR/COM/1523/1149/2024-25 Date: 10.06.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION No.: 01/2024-25
(e-Procurement Platform)

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation invites offers/bids from the interested Persons/Agency for **House keeping and Toilet Complex maintenance of various Bus Stands** through e-procurement platform. Last date & time for submission of bids is on **01.07.2024 up to 17.00 hrs.** Opening of Financial bids is on **03.07.2024 at 11.30 hrs.** Further details in this regard can be obtained in the e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or by contacting: 91-8046010000, 91-8068948777; or 7760997519, 7760991222 & 7760991026, E-mail: **ctmc@mybmtc.com**

Sd/- Chief Traffic Manager (Com) (Tender Inviting Authority)

TIDEL PARK LTD,CHENNAI

(An ISO 9001/14001/45001 Company)
CIN No.U74999TN1997PLC039523

E-TENDER NOTICE FOR SELECTION OF MANPOWER AGENCY

E-Tender Notice No: TIDEL/2024-25/03 **11.06.2024**

TIDEL Park LTD, Chennai invites e-Tender for Selection of Manpower Agency to supply of required manpower on outsourcing basis for a period of one year, renewable for another two years to TIDEL Park Ltd., from reputed service providers, who meets the criteria etc., The qualification criteria are mentioned in the Tender Document.

For more information and participation in the e-tender, please visit the website https: www.tntenders.gov.in. The last date for online submission of duly filled tender documents is 3.00 p.m. on 08.07.2024. TIDEL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DIPR/1821/TENDER/2024 **Managing Director**

K RIDE
RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (KARNATAKA) LIMITED

(A Joint Venture of Government of Karnataka & Ministry of Railways)

BENGALURU SUBURBAN RAIL PROJECT

ಕೆ-ರೈಡ್ K RIDE

CIN: U60100KA2000SGC028171
Regd. Office: K-RIDE, Samparka Soudha, 1st Floor,
Opp. Orion Mall, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar, 1st Block,
Bengaluru - 560010, Email ID: gmprocurement@kride.in

No.K-RIDE/2024-25/SE0003 Dt: 08.06.2024

e-Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited from reputed IRDA approved insurer for providing following services :

Sl. No.	Name of work
1	Group Medical & Group Accident Insurance Policies for K-RIDE Employees.

Last date for submitting bid **is 20.06.2024.** For submission of bid document visit: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and for more details visit: **www.kride.in**

Sd/-GENERAL MANAGER/K-RIDE

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ

(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಒಂದು ಉದ್ಯಮ)

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ
ಸಿದ್ದಾಪುರ, ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. 576229

ಸಂ:ಕನೀನಿನಿ/ವಾಯೋವಿ/ಪಿಬಿ/ವಿ.ನಾ-32/ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಕ್ರಾಸ್ ದ.ಪ್ರ/01/2024-25/208
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07-06-2024

ದರಪಟ್ಟಿ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ

ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಕುಂದಾಪುರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವಾರಾಹಿ ನೀರಾವರಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವ Conducting Detailed Topographical Survey, Investigation, Preparation of Designs, Drawings and Construction of Distributary Canal Network comprising of Minors, Sub-Minors and Laterals including Lining and Structuresunder Distributary No-32 offtaking at Ch. 28.350 Km of Varahi Left Bank Canal to provide irrigation facility to 1353.31 Ha. of Irrigable Command Area including Troughs, Aqueducts, Railway Crossing and other CD works in Kundapura Taluk of Udupi District including Operation and Maintenance of the entire canal network for a period of Five years after successful completion of the work on 'Turnkey Basis' ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ Installing of 1200.00mm dia, 16.00mm thick product pipe by manual pipe jacking method ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಅಂದಾಜು ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದರವನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ, ಕೇಂದ್ರಿಯ/ರಾಜ್ಯ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಾಗಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿರುವ ಹಾಗೂ ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿರುವ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ದರಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ 7 ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗೆ ಮುಚ್ಚಿದ ಲಕೋಟೆಯ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯ / ರಾಜ್ಯ ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿರುವ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ರೈಲ್ವೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ದೃಢೀಕರಣ ಪತ್ರದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಲು ಕೋರಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ **ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08259-284240** ಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕನೀನಿನಿ,
ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಸಿದ್ದಾಪುರ ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಸನೀಇ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/37/24-25 ದಿ: 10.06.24

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Kranataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KPTCL invites bids for the following works.

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AEE-2/F-76(8) /24-25/1217 Date:10.06.2024

1) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AEE-2/22-23/EPR-28/CALL-09 Dt:02.09.2022 for "Repairs to faulty 31.5MVA, 66/11kV class, BBL make, Sl. No: 4934/20 Power Transformer failed at 66/11kV Banaswadi Sub-station, BMAZ North Circle, Bengaluru on total turnkey basis on Percentage tender basis".

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AEE-2/F-76(11) /24-25/1280 Date:10.06.2024

2) KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BMAZ(N)/ EE(O)/AEE-2/23-24/EPR-06/CALL-3 Dt:19.10.2023 for "Repair and Reconditioning of faulty 20MVA, 66/11kV class, BBL make, Sl. No: 4908/7 Power Transformer failed at 66/11kV Manyatha Tech Park Sub-station, BMAZ North Circle, Bengaluru on total turnkey basis on Percentage tender basis".

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AE/F- 98(3)23-24/1273-74 Date:10.06.2024

3) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BMAZ(N)/Painting/EE(O)/AE/23-24/EPR-20/ Call-2 dtd:21.02.2024 for "Painting of structures, equipments, Transformers & other station equipments at various 66/11kV sub stations in TL&SS Division, Peenya under Transmission (Maintenance), BMAZ North circle on Total Turnkey Basis.

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AE/F- 82(15)/23-24/1275-76 Date:06.10.2024

4) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BMAZ(N)/Railway_crossing/EE(O)/AE/23-24/EPR-21/Call-2 dtd:05.03.2024 for Replacement of aged Railway crossing conductors with same capacity new conductor at various locations of railway crossing,coming under the jurisdiction of TLM Rajajinagar section, TLM sub-div Rajajinagar, TL&SS Dvn, KPTCL, SRS Peenya, Bengaluru-58 on total turnkey basis."

No. SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AE/F- 98(5), 98(6), 98(7)& 82(10)/23-24/1277-78 Date:10.06.2024

5) "To providing intermediate towers & replacement of towers to increase vertical clearance of existing 220kV & 66kV lines at various hazardous locations pertaining to TLM sub-division, KPTCL, Rajajinagar in TL&SS Division, SRS Peenya in different packages." BMAZ North circle Bangalore.

No.:SEE/Tr(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AEE-2/F-71(7,13 &21)/24-25/1279 Date:10.06.2024

6) Bid Enquiry No. KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/BMAZ(N)/EE(O)/AEE-2/22-23/EPR-38/Call-6 Dt:28.12.2022 for "Replacement of existing age-old Control & Relay Panels at the following 66/11kV Sub-stations pertains to TL&SS Division, Hebbal in the jurisdiction of BMAZ north Circle Bangalore on total turnkey basis".

1. 2X31.5MVA Transformer-1 & Transformer-2 at 66/11kV 'C' Station. **2.** 1X31.5MVA Transformer-1 at 66/11kV Banaswadi Sub-station. **3.** 1X31.5MVA Transformer-2 & 66kV, ITI-2 Line (ITI-Pottery Road) at Pottery Road Sub-station

The detailed Notification regarding the subject tender can be got by logging on to KPTCL wesite **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **'E Procurement KPTCL'** or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 11.06.2024.** Further details can be obtained from office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Elec., Transmission (Maintenance), BMAZ North Circle, KPTCL, Office Complex, Ground Floor, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-560 009.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, **SMT. K. R. SARASWATHAMMA** w/o K. V. Gopal @ Gopalappa is the absolute owner of properties described in the Schedule hereunder.

It is brought to the notice of the general public that, our client has negotiated and decided to develop the Schedule Property in to a Residential Apartment on a Joint development basis with the above said owners. Any persons having any claim against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to sell, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office **within 10 days from the date of publication hereof**, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM NO. 1:

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing **Sy. No. 41/1 (Old Sy. No. 41),** measuring to an extent of **1 Acre 05 Guntas,** situated at Bhattarahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded on the:
East by: Remaining portion of same Survey No. 41/1
West by: Land bearing Survey No. 44
North by: Land bearing Survey No. 41/2
South by: Land bearing Survey No. 42

ITEM NO. 2:

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing **Sy. No. 41/2 (Old Sy. No. 41),** measuring to an extent of **2 Acres 14.08 Guntas**, situated at Bhattarahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded on the:
East by: Remaining portion of same Survey No. 41/2
West by: Land bearing Survey No. 44
North by: Road
South by: Land bearing Survey No. 41/1

Dated this 11th day of June 2024 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, First Floor, 25th Cross, 24th Main, Sector 2, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560 102,
Phone: 080-65555914,
Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690,

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Short tender Notice for Establishment of 40 KW HYBRID Solar Power Plant in Mahendragiri Eco tourism Centre under the Paralakhemundi Forest Division

Tender Notice No. 02 / 1F (ACCOUNT) - 2024, Dated, Paralakhemundi the 07th June' 2024

Divisional Forest officer Paralakhemundi invites SHORT TENDER from intending Agency/ Company/ Firm for Establishing Solar Power Plant in Mahendragiri Eco tourism Centre.

The SHORT TENDER is to be submitted in closed covers and addressed to the Divisional Forest Officer, **Paralakhemundi Forest Division, Dist. Gajapati, Odisha 761200** on or before **25.06.2024** through Speed Post/ Regd. Post/ Courier or by Hand.

The complete Short tender document can be downloaded from the website **(https://forest.odisha.gov.in/more/advertisement) (https://gajapati.odisha.gov.in) from 07.06.2024** onwards. Divisional Forest Officer Paralakhemundi reserves the right to reject any or all the SHORT TENDER without assigning any reason thereof.

Divisional Forest Officer, Paralakhemundi Forest Division.

MM-13: OIPR-08148/11/0001/2425

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, BBMP, Annexe Building - 03, N.R.Square, Bangalore - 560 002.

NO. DCF/PR-487/2024-25 **DATE : 10.06.2024**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the Citizens of Bengaluru that the Executive Engineer, WWM-Project-Hebbal & Arkavathy Valley, BWSSB, Bengaluru has submitted an application to the undersigned for removal of trees standing at the for Work, Design and Construction of new 60 MLD Capacity STP based on IFAS process technology in lieu of existing 60 MLD STP and 40 MLD ISPS at Hennur along with Raising Main including Operation & Maintenance of Constructed facilities for 5 years on Turnkey basis. The details are given below:

Name of the Project	Work, Design and Construction of new 60 MLD Capacity STP based on IFAS process technology in lieu of existing 60 MLD STP and 40 MLD ISPS at Hennur along with Raising Main including Operation & Maintenance of Constructed facilities for 5 years on Turnkey basis.				
Name of the Agency	Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), WWN-O-H- & A Valley, Bengaluru				
Purpose for removal of trees	The trees are standing at Hebbal within the project area for Work, Design and Construction of New 60 MLD Capacity STP based on IFAS process technology in lieu of existing 60 MLD STP and 40 MLD ISPS at Hennur along with Raising Main including Operation & Maintenance of Constructed facilities for 5 years on Turnkey basis.				
Description of the area with clear demarcation of boundaries or with GPS coordinates	Boundary	Latitude (N)	Longitude (E)	Location	
	1	13.0429263	77.6038079	Office premises of Executive Engineer, BWSSB, WWM-Project-Hebbal & Arkavathy Valley at Sy. No. 17/1A, 17/2A, Opp. Nagavara Lake, BDA Outer Ring Road, Bengaluru	
	2	13.0419251	77.6054377		
	3	13.0411876	77.6052144		
	4	12.0413068	77.6035846		
Enumeration of trees ●Total No. of trees standing in the project area	83 Nos. (Annexure-1)	Description of trees, species. location, area, etc., are uploaded in the website of BBMP for information of all. **(www.bbmp.gov.in)**			
●Total No. of trees proposed to be removed	83 Nos . (Annexure-1)				
Mode of Communication of Comments *(Public can send their comments either by e-mail / Post / Hand*	Address: a)The Deputy Conservator of Forests & Tree Officer, BBMP, N.R Square. Bangalore- 560002. E-mail id: **1. dcfbbmp12@gmail.com** for Tree Officer, BBMP b) The EE, RID, RR Nagar Zone, BBMP Bengaluru, email ID : **eewwmp-hav@bwssb.gov.in*** *Comments communicated directly to EE, BWSSB, should also be marked to the **Tree-Officer / DCF, BBMP.**				
Deadline for filing objections	Ten (10) days from the date of publication of this Notification in Newspapers ***Objections / Comments / Suggestions should be relevant and specific to the project.**				

In view of the above, the suggestions/objections/comments are invited from citizens under Section 8 (3) (vii) of the Karnataka Preservation of Tree Act, 1976.

Sd/- Tree Officer, Deputy Conservator of Forests, BBMP.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING WING

Office of the Chief Engineer, Arogya Soudha, 3rd floor, Leprosy Hospital Premises, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengaluru-560 023
Telephone No.: 080-29557023 E-mail:**cekhsdrp@gmail.com**

No: HFWD/EW/CE/TA-2/AE-3/TND/HWC/2024-25/450 Date:10.06.2024

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Chief Engineer, HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Class-I,II & III contractors registered in KPWD in two tender document system in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for the works of construction of Health and Wellness Centers pertaining to Bengaluru, Mysuru, Dharwad and Kalaburagi Divisions of Health and Family Welfare Department in 23 Packages (Package Estimate amount from **Rs.130.00 Lakhs to Rs. 910.00 Lakhs)** under the Head of Account: 2210-06-800-0-04-059 (15th Finance) Refer Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for further details.

Calendar of Events: (1) Last date for receipt of tenders: **28.06.2024 up to 16.00 hrs. (2)** Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **29.06.2024 at 16.30 hrs.**

The tender details can be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement portal platform. Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and Earnest Money Deposit and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the Karnataka Public Procurement portal platform to participate in tenders.

NOTE: 1. All the rights are reserved by the undersigned for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. 2. Henceforth, any changes in the schedule / contents will not be published through newspapers and further changes will be updated on kpp portal only.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, H&FWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru

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EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, YOGESH Manikandan, S/o Manikandan Kamatchi, R/at No. 3181, Jothimani Nivas, 2nd Main, Hosakerehalli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085, have changed my name from Yogesh Manikandan to Yogesh.J.M, vide affidavit dated 07/06/2024 before Notary Gangaraju.B.N, Bengaluru.

I, PREM Kumar, S/o Manikandan Kamatchi, R/at No. 3181, 2nd Main, Hosakerehalli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085, have changed my name from Prem Kumar to Premkumar.J.M, vide affidavit dated 07/06/2024 before Notary Gangaraju.B.N, Bengaluru.

I, HYMAVATHI.K, W/o Venkatesh Babu Amaravathi, R/at No. 59, Ground Floor, 13th Cross, Ittamadu, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bengaluru-560085 have changed my name from Hymavathi.K to Hymavathi Amaravathi, vide affidavit dated 07/06/2024 before Notary Gangaraju.B.N, Bengaluru.

I, S Sritesh S/o Satish Babu, R/o Door No.2332, Sathya Tirumala Complex, MIG 3rd Stage, Near New Town Bus Stand, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka-560064 have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sritesh Setty vide affidavit dt: 10.06.2024 sworn before Notary Ravikumar.V, B'luru

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Preetee Agnihotri W/O, Bharat Agnihotri R/o P-39/05, 7th Camp, Jalahalli East, Bengaluru-560014 have changed my name to Km Preetee Sharma.

LEGAL NOTICE

P.Bench/1st Addl. Bench
State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Punjab, Sector 37-A, Dakshin Marg, Chandigarh
No. SCDRC/PB/24/3187
Dated 24.05.2024
First Appeal No. 727 of 2023
Fixed for: 20.09.2024
M/s Bajaj Motors Ltd. Appellant (s)
Versus
NIC Respondents (s)
To
2. M/s A.T.O. (1), Ltd 28, J.C. Road, 2nd Floor, Sindhi Colony, Behind VISL House Bangalore-560002, through its Manager.
Whereas, the above-mentioned case has been filed before the State Commission, Punjab and whereas, this Commission is satisfied that respondent/OP cannot be served in an ordinary manner. Hence, this proclamation is hereby issued against the above named respondent/OP directing him/them to appear before this commission either personally or through their authorized agent (s) of counsel on 20.09.2024 at 10:30 AM to answer and in the event of their non-appearance, it shall be presumed that they have nothing to say in the matter and the complaint shall be decided ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the Commission on this date 20.05.2024
Superintendent (Judicial)
For Registrar

FIR against house owner

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Over a year after conducting a raid on a house in Parappana Agarahara and arresting a Nigerian national for allegedly peddling drugs, the Central Crime Branch on Saturday initiated legal action against the owner of the house for renting it out to the accused.

Based on the complaint by Praveen C. Yaligar, Economic Offenses Squad, CCB, the Parappana Agrahara police registered an FIR against Sharavana Ramalingam, charging him under various sections of the Foreigners Act. The CCB Anti Narcotics Wing, on March 19, 2023, raided the house in Veerabhadraswamy layout of Doddanagamangala and arrested Victor Obinna Chukwudi, 44, from Nigeria, and recovered huge amounts of narcotics, including MDMA worth ₹2 crore, mobile phones and a weighing machine. The accused had overstayed in the city and was peddling drugs sourced from Delhi.

The officials found that the owner of the house, Sharavana Ramalingam, did not follow any procedure nor submit any required documents.

Man dupes job-seekers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Yeshwanthpur police have registered a case of cheating against a conman who, posing as a software engineer from a reputed IT firm, duped many unemployed youth promising them jobs in IT companies.

Based on the complaint by one of the victims, the Yeshwanthpur police on Saturday registered a case and are trying to track him down. The victim, P. Ravikiran, 30, from Hyderabad, was searching for IT jobs in Bengaluru, when the accused, Suresh Munnavar, approached him, offering to get him a job and also help him in training to prepare for interviews and experience online.

Ravikiran paid a total of ₹3 lakh transferred online in February this year and attended a few training sessions with others. The accused initially offered placements after successful completion of the online session, but after completion of the course, he started dodging them.

Authorities scramble to clear trees brought down by rain in Bengaluru

BBMP Chief Commissioner has highlighted issues faced by civic body, including limited staff and the need to prioritise identification of dead and dangerous trees on roads

Aryan Bhatt, Parvati Nair and Vibha Rajeev
BENGALURU

A tree uprooted after heavy rain in Bengaluru. Besides roadblocks, residents are also complaining of power outages, caused by trees falling on electricity lines.

Bengaluru has been receiving rainfall accompanied by gusty winds resulting in a significant number of large trees falling on roads, disrupting traffic and resulting in loss of biodiversity. Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has been working to clear the debris, but the sheer volume of fallen trees has led to delays, with some areas taking up to four days to clear.

Kavita Anand, a teacher at a playschool near Jayanagar metro station, said, "Despite repeated complaints, the response was slow. This has caused a major problem, as we now have to take longer routes to avoid traffic jams, which have become common in the area."

Sudarshan Yadav from J.P. Nagar said that a tree that had fallen in his area was cleared after four days. "The entire road was blocked for four days," he said.

Residents are also complaining of power outages, caused by trees falling on electricity lines. In homes having patients, some are forced to rush to hospitals for oxygen assistance during power outages. A few days ago, a huge tree fell on the metro line near Trinity metro station, leading to disruption in service.

As Bengaluru continues to deal with the aftermath of the heavy rains, the focus remains on swift removal of debris and long-term strategies to prevent such incidents in the future.

Minister for Forest, Ecology, and Environment Eshwar Khandre said initial reports indicated most of the uprooted trees were exotic species. "Due to concretisation of pavements, rainwater isn't seeping into the soil, causing moisture stress in summer, leading to root decay. Native tree species, adapted to local conditions, survive better. Therefore, we must plant local species," he said.

"Old or decayed trees, prone to falling, should be removed as a precaution to avoid damage. The Tree Canopy Management Team and Rapid Response Teams will conduct this exercise," he added.

Veena Kumaran, an environmentalist from Green Footprint NGO, criticised the delay in conducting a comprehensive tree census. "A proper scientific tree census would identify weak or old trees, allowing for their removal before they pose any danger to life or property," she asserted.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said, "The wood has to be transferred to timber stores designated by the Forest Department, which are quite far. This adds to the time taken for removal," he said. He assured that the government has plans for the debris, with timber auction proceeds going to the treasury, and leaves and small branches being composted at landfill sites.

Mr. Giri Nath also highlighted the limitations faced by BBMP in proactive tree management. "With limited staff, it's difficult to identify all the trees that pose a danger. We rely on public feedback through the Sahaaya app. Our priority is surveying dead and dangerous trees on major and arterial roads, spanning about 1,400 kilometres, which doesn't require committee clearance," he told *The Hindu*.

Alleged encroachers destroy 400 saplings planted by citizens

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

Citizens planted about 400 saplings at U.M. Kaval in Hemmigepura in Bengaluru. Alleged encroachers removed the saplings planted as a mark of protest at U.M. Kaval in Hemmigepura in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

About 400 saplings planted by citizens at U.M. Kaval in Hemmigepura in protest against the alleged encroachment of government land as part of Environment Day celebrations were destroyed hours after the plantation drive. The residents now allege that the plants were removed by the alleged encroachers.

Earlier, residents had complained about the alleged illegal construction that began on March 9. According to the residents, the L-shaped land, bearing survey number 7, has a tertiary drain, which carries water to the main stormwater drain. The water flows into Agara lake. After residents held a protest march on March 27, fearing backlash, the construction work was halted. In the first week of April, based on the complaint filed by the residents, the Revenue Department directed the tahsildar to investigate the allegations and take appropriate action.

On Saturday, to further emphasise the violations and alleged land mafia, about 400 local residents holding saplings arrived on the land and started planting them. Women, children and senior citizens took part in this drive.

Nischith K.R., a resident who spearheaded the drive, talking to *The Hindu,* said although the construction was halted, a few days ago, there was activity like digging of a borewell. This angered the residents and they decided to protest in a unique way. "As Environment Day just went by, we decided to plant saplings thinking the alleged encroachers would not kill the plants. The drive happened in the morning and at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, the saplings were uprooted," Mr. Nischith said.

The residents of U.M. Kaval have formed an association of four apartment complexes in the area and held a meeting. The association is deliberating on the further course of action. "We are thinking about filing a complaint or holding another protest," he said.

Mr. Nischith said it was unfortunate to see the destruction of saplings. The alleged encroacher sent people to destroy the saplings to scare the residents who are protesting, he alleged.

A Revenue Department official told *The Hindu* said he was not aware of the incident, but the government had ordered an investigation into the alleged encroachment.

Vinod Jaiswal is CGM of SBI, Bengaluru Circle

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Vinod Jaiswal took charge as the Chief General Manager, State Bank of India, Bengaluru Circle, on Friday.

Prior to the present position, Mr. Jaiswal was CGM, SBI, Chandigarh Circle.

The SBI, Bengaluru Circle, has 1,700 plus branches and manages a balance sheet of over ₹4,50,000 crores, SBI, Bengaluru Circle, in a release said.

Purple Line services disrupted after man jumps in front of train

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

On Monday, a man jumped in front of a train at Hosahalli Metro station at 8.56 p.m., disrupting services for more than half an hour on the Purple Line.

According to a statement from the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), "Trains from 8.56 p.m. were running a short loop service from Challaghatta to Mysuru Road and Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Station to Whitefield (Kadugodi). The passenger suffered a minor head injury and was taken to the nearest hospital for treatment." Normalcy of services on the line resumed from 9.30 p.m.

The police said the victim was suffering from depression. "He has a minor head injury and is out of danger. We cannot disclose his name and details because he is a patient of depression," the Vijayanagar police stated in a statement.

This is not a one-off incident. On March 21, a 19-year-old student of National Law School of India University, Bengaluru, fell onto the tracks at Attiguppe Metro Station on the Purple Line around 2 p.m. and was hit by an oncoming metro and killed on the spot.

On January 5, a male commuter jumped in front of a train at Jalahalli metro station at 7.12 p.m. He sustained injuries and was shifted to a private hospital.

(Those in distress or having suicidal thoughts can call Arogya Sahayavani number 104 for help.)

Leopard safari at BBP by end of June

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The leopard safari enclosure under construction at Bannerghatta Biological Park. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre on Monday instructed officials to begin a leopard safari at Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) by the end of June.

Presiding over the governing council meeting of the Zoo Authority, Mr. Khandre said that the new leopard safari can operate along with the existing lion and tiger safaris in the BBP.

A concept study report and feasibility report for the construction of an aquarium for freshwater and marine fish on a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model in BBP were also reviewed and approval was given for the construction of a conventional aquarium which would be of global standards.

Approval was also given to operate a Vulture Conservation Breeding Center within Bannerghatta National Park.

In addition, approval was also given to start a 10-month diploma course in Animal Care and Management at BBP. This course is in collaboration with Life Science Education Trust, Bengaluru, with the accreditation of Bangalore University.

Mr. Khandre said that there is a need for skilled personnel to take care of wildlife in zoos. He added that the Cauvery water from BWSSB would be supplied to wildlife and visitors at BBP.

Mr. Khandre also directed officials to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for setting up an aquarium at a spot between Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens and Karanji Lake in Mysuru. The aquarium will be developed on a PPP model. He directed officials to submit a proposal within 15 days to select a consultant for the project.

At the meeting, the appointment of veterinarians was discussed and approval was given for the appointment of doctors to ensure that there is no shortage of wildlife veterinarians in zoos and that measures are taken to ensure that wildlife in zoos do not die due to infection and other diseases.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No: H-GS-UBL-04-2024-25
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Appointment of General Consultant (GC) for Gatishakti Unit, Hubballi Division.	Rs. 2,89,69,461/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs on 15-07-2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Project Manager /Gati Shakti
PUB/146/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Hubballi**
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No: HE-TRD-2024-25-OT-13
Dated : 06.06.2024.
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
OHE Modification for shifting of Insulated overlaps in Hubballi Division.	Rs. 2,00,33,827/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs on 01-07-2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer / TRD
PUB/147/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Hubballi**
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No: HE-TRD-2024-25-OT-14
Dated : 06.06.2024.
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
OHE Modification for Elimination of LC Gates No. 37, 19, 89, 90, 315, 319, 356, 436 by construction of RUBs in Hubballi Division.	Rs. 1,40,59,557/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs on 01-07-2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date
Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer / TRD
PUB/148/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Hubballi**
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No: SBC-GSU-ENGG-2024-01
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Upgradation of Test Set up for holding 150 Electric locomotives (Phase-IV) - Civil Works - **Sub Work - I :** Pro. Test facility for control equipment of AC locomotives at DSL Krishnarajapuram (Electronics Lab). **Sub Work - II :** Pro. Upgradation of Laboratory including reconstruction of Existing Building (Metallurgy Lab) in connection with Krishnarajapuram Shed.	Rs. 2,87,41,677.62

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs on 24-06-2024**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Chief Project Manager / Gati Shakti
PUB/141/AAS/PRB/SWR/2024-25 **Bengaluru**
South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is informed that My client **Niveditha B Rao w/o Akash Kalathur,** intends to purchase the property described in the schedule herein from **M/s Provident Housing Ltd** (hereinafter builder/seller) The builder/seller represents and warrant that they are the absolute owners of the schedule property and they have not conveyed or entered into any Agreement with any other person/s, for sale/transfer of the schedule property and that the builder/seller further represents and warrants that they have not encumbered, mortgaged or created any lien on the schedule property in any manner and apart from them no other person/s, includes legal heirs, Firm or Company having any sort of right, title or claim over the schedule property. Any person/s having any objection/s or claim/s shall with documentary evidence lodge their objection/s, claim/s, within **Seven (07) days** from the date of this notice with the undersigned, failing which my client shall proceed with the above mentioned transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential **Flat No:CAP-II-T 7-710, 6th Floor,** in **PROVIDENT CAPELLA,** in Tower T 7, measuring SBA 427.86 sqft, constructed on Converted Sy.No.36/42, 36/P8 and 269, inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases Situated at **Samethanahalli Village, Anugondanahalli Hobli, Hoskote Tq, Bengaluru.**

Prashanth B.K, Advocate,
No.17, Sir M V 2nd Cross, Kalkere Main Road, Ramamurthynagar
Bengaluru-560016 M : 09900056401
Bengaluru Date : 11-06-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my clients, **Mr. Sunil Prabhakar Udgire S/o. Mr. Prabhakar Udgire,** Aged about 43 years and **Mrs. Neha Rahman W/o. Mr. Sunil Udgire,** Aged about 45 years and Both residing at Flat No. AI-504, Aikya Block, **"Olety Landmark"**, 01/11, Pipe Line Road, Near Shankar Mutt, Kurubarahalli Raod, Basaveshwaranagar, Mahalakshmi Layout P.O, Bangalore-560086 are jointly intending to purchase the Schedule Property from **Mrs. Geetha @ Geetha Mahesh, D/o. Late Dr. T S Mallesh and W/o. Mr. Mahesh D S,** Aged about 59 years, Residing at TF-1, #263, "Lalitha Residency" Coffee Board Layout, Opp. Family Super Market, Hebbal Kempapura, Bangalore-560024, the said property was acquired through a Registered Sale Deed, Dated 30.06.1993 which was executed by Bangalore Development Authority Represented by its Deputy Secretary and duly registered as Document No. 1204/1993-94 of Book-I and stored in Vol. No. 1470 at pages 137 to 138 before the office of the Sub-registrar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, in respect of the Schedule Property as mentioned below.

Any person/s having any objection, claim, interest, dispute for the above intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with the documentary proof substantiating his/her/their objections/claims/details of dispute/s within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of this publication, failing which, my client will proceed to complete the sale transaction as if there are no third party claims/objections/disputes in respect of the Schedule Property and thereafter no claims/objections/disputes will be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing BDA **Site No. 737,** presently bearing BBMP Katha No. 737, PID No. 19-3-737 in BBMP Old Ward No. 19, New Ward No. 100 (Basaveshwaranagar), Situated at **West of Chord Road, III Stage, III Block, Basaveshwarnagar, Bangalore** and measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 58 feet, in all measuring **2,320 Sq.ft** and along with a building thereon and bounded on:

East by : Site No. 736,
West by : Site No. 737A,
North by : Site No. 738,
South by : Road.

Navya U, B.com., LLB.
Advocate and Legal Consultant
NSN Law Associates
No. 1250, Manutej Towers, Magadi Main Road, Agrahara Dasarahalli, Bangalore-560079.

झारखंड सरकार
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय,
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गोड्डा 814133
(rdsd.godda@gmail.com)

शुद्धि पत्र

इस कार्यालय द्वारा आहूत अल्पकालीन ई निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या RWD/SD/GODDA/28/2023-24 जिसका पी॰आर॰ संख्या 325506 Rural Development (24-25)_D है को अपरिहार्य कारण से रद्द किया जाता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल,
गोड्डा।

PR 325804 Rural Development(24-25)D

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Road Construction Department,
Road Division, Daltonganj.

e-Procurement Short Tender Notice
2nd Call
e-Tender Ref No- 01/ RCD/Daltonganj/2024-25/ 565
Dated:- 08.06.2024

1.	Name of Work	**IRQP Work of Mohammadganj - Dangwar Road (Total Length - 30.40 km) Working Length - 0.00 to 15.00 km for the year 2023-24**
2.	Estimated Cost	**Rs. 9,07,88,875.00 (Rupees Nine Crore Seven Lacs Eighty Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Five) Only.**
3.	Bid Security (Amount)	**Rs. 9,07,900.00 (Rupees Nine Lacs Seven Thousand Nine Hundred) Only.**
4.	Time of Completion	**06 Months**
5.	Date of Publication of Tender on Website	**14.06.2024, 10:30 AM**
6.	Last Date/Time of Online Bid Submission	**28.06.2024, 12:00 Noon**
7.	Date and Time of Bid opening	**02.07.2024, 12:30 PM**
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Understand the Indian Ocean and you'll understand much about earth

The Indian Ocean is among the fastest warming oceans, with dire consequences for heatwaves and rain over the subcontinent. Marine heatwaves are also a concern now for corals and fisheries. The Indian Ocean is also playing a role in how well the Pacific Ocean can control global warming

Raghu Murtugudde

The Indian Ocean is famous for its dramatic monsoon winds and the bountiful rain it brings to the Indian subcontinent. JOHN CAMERON/UNSPLASH

World Oceans Day was on June 8. For the occasion, let's take in the wonders of the smallest of the three major oceans right in our front yard. The Indian Ocean has been getting a lot of attention recently for its rapid warming and the outsized influence it continues to have on its peers.

As it happens, the Indian Ocean is critical today to understand the earth's overall ocean response to increasing greenhouse gases and global warming.

Home to the deadliest storms

The Indian Ocean is famous for its dramatic monsoon winds and the bountiful rain it brings to the Indian subcontinent. The winds and the rain have evoked prose and poetry for millennia. More than a billion people depend on the moisture it supplies to quench their thirst, to replenish fisheries, and to produce food and energy.

The warm summer months are characterised by the rapid warming of the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal as well as the southern tropical Indian Ocean. The winds begin to turn around from a land-to-ocean direction during winter to an ocean-to-land direction as summer commences.

The scorching heat on the subcontinent also comes with the threat of pre-monsoon cyclones. The North Indian Ocean doesn't generate as many cyclones as the Pacific or the Atlantic Oceans, but the numbers and their rapid intensification have been growing ominously. The relatively small North Indian Ocean ensures cyclones don't grow into the sort of hot powerhouses hurricanes and typhoons can be. But also the developing countries along the rim of South Asia, East Africa, and West Asia are sitting ducks in their path. Thus, cyclones tend to be the deadliest storms by mortality.

The warm ocean supports fisheries, big and small, and fish such as anchovies, mackerel, sardines, and tuna. Dolphins are a tourist attraction; some whales have also been sighted in the Arabian Sea. Tourists also flock to popular beaches and the corals from Lakshadweep to the Andaman-Nicobar Islands, all the way down to Reunion Island off Madagascar.

A unique configuration

The northern boundary of the Indian Ocean is closed off by the Asian landmass, minus tiny connections to the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea.

The southern Indian Ocean is also different from the other oceans thanks to two oceanic tunnels that connect it to the Pacific and the Southern Oceans.

Through the first tunnel – the Indonesian seas – the Pacific Ocean dumps up to 20 million cubic metres of water every second into the eastern Indian Ocean. These waters also transport a substantial amount of heat. They stay mostly in the top 500 m and move through the Indian Ocean towards Madagascar. The Pacific waters, called the Indonesian Throughflow, wander around the Indian Ocean and affect the circulation, temperature, and salinities.

The other tunnel connects the Indian Ocean to the Southern Ocean with two-way traffic. Colder, saltier and thus heavier waters flow into the Indian Ocean from the Southern Ocean below a depth of about 1 km. Due to the closed northern boundary, the waters slowly mix upward, and with the waters coming from the Pacific. The waters in the top 1 km eventually exit to the south.

The mix of heat and water masses in the Indian Ocean confer some mighty abilities to affect the uptake of heat in the world's oceans.

The little ocean that could

The Indian Ocean is a warm bathtub despite the underwater tunnels because it is heavily influenced by the Pacific Ocean through an atmospheric bridge as well. The atmospheric circulation, dominated by a massive centre of rainfall over the Maritime Continent, creates mostly sinking air over the Indian Ocean. The atmosphere also warms the Indian Ocean year after year.

The Indian Ocean thus gains heat that it must get rid of via the waters moving south. With global warming, the Pacific has been dumping some additional heat in the Indian Ocean. The cold water coming in from the Southern Ocean is also not as cold as before.

The net result: the Indian Ocean is among the fastest warming oceans, with dire consequences for heat waves and extreme rain over the Indian subcontinent. Marine heat waves are also a major concern now for corals and fisheries.

The warming Indian Ocean is affecting the wind circulation in a way that's also affecting the amount of heat the Pacific is able to take up. The Pacific Ocean takes up heat in its cold, eastern tropical region, and this is crucial to determine the rate of global warming. The Indian Ocean is thus playing a role in how well the Pacific can control global warming.

> Despite being the smallest tropical ocean, the Indian Ocean's influence has become impossible to understate. Oceans take up over 90% of the additional heat more greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are trapping

The other region where the ocean can draw down the heat and lock it away in deeper waters is in the North Atlantic. This is where surface waters become so dense that they sink like a rock into the depths. If the sinking of the water slows due to global warming – which seems to be the case – the heat doesn't sink away from the surface as quickly as it used to.

Indeed, researchers have found that the Indian Ocean's warming is actually helping accelerate the sinking of the heat, thus modulating global warming directly!

This is why, despite being the smallest tropical ocean, the Indian Ocean's influence has become impossible to understate. Recall that the oceans take up over 90% of the additional heat more greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are trapping.

A hand in human evolution

If this isn't wondrous enough, the reconfiguration of the Indian Ocean may have played a role in the evolution of our ancestors as well.

Until about three million years ago, Australia and New Guinea were well south of the equator and the Indian Ocean was directly connected to the Pacific Ocean. And this Indo-Pacific Ocean was in a warm state known as a 'permanent El Niño' – a state that was associated with permanently plentiful rain and lush green forests over East Africa. Today, this part of Africa is arid.

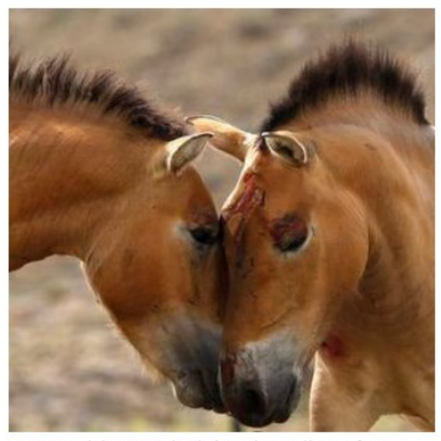
The northward drift of Australia and New Guinea, which is still ongoing, separated the Indian and the Pacific Oceans around three million years ago. As a result, the eastern Pacific Ocean became cooler and the El Niño went from a permanent state to an episodic one, like the ones we've been seeing.

This transition aridified East Africa, turning its rainforests into grasslands and savannahs. Researchers have also hypothesised that these changes forced our ancestors, such as chimpanzees and gorillas, to move farther and run faster. In the rainforests, they had an abundance of food and hiding places and didn't have to.

If these hypotheses are borne out, it's possible the transformation also had a hand in the birth of bipedal movement – the ability to walk on two legs – which is much more efficient than moving on all four across larger distances.

The storied history of our neighbourhood ocean is thus a worthy thing to celebrate – and study – on World Oceans Day.

(The author is a Professor, IIT Bombay, and Emeritus Professor, University of Maryland.)



A Przewalski mare (right) and a stallion after being released at the Khomiin Tal reservation in Western Mongolia. AP

Wild horse species is returned to the Kazakh steppes

Agence France Presse

After a few hesitant steps following a long flight from Prague, three Przewalski horses galloped off for the first time into the Kazakh steppe – the native habitat of this endangered species.

The horses emerged after being locked in containers for 20 hours and are the first of 40 which are to be released into the wild in this vast Central Asian country over the next five years.

"We have been waiting for this moment for a very long time," Albert Salemgareyev from the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan told AFP.

"A lot of work has been carried out in recent months in order for the Przewalski horses to come to Kazakhstan."

The project run by the Prague and Berlin zoo is aimed at preserving this species of stockily built horse with large heads which share a common ancestry with modern domestic horses but are genetically different.

Przewalski horses are commonly referred to as one of the world's last breeds of wild horse.

"We know that the Przewalski horses are suited to this steppe," Mr. Salemgareyev said.

The horses are capable of resisting harsh winters like the ones in Kazakhstan

There are now 2,000 Przewalski horses around the world, mainly in China and Mongolia but also in France, Russia and living wild in the Chernobyl exclusion zone between Belarus and Ukraine

where temperatures can drop below minus 30 degrees C and food runs scarce.

The three first specimens – Zorro, Ypsilonka, and Zeta II – arrived earlier this month. Four more landed in Kazakhstan from Berlin on Thursday morning and were released in the afternoon.

They will initially be under observation in the Golden Steppe nature reserve before being left in the wild.

"This year we will follow their health and see how they acclimatise," Salemgareyev said.

The 5,000-km, first by plane to the town of Arqalyk and then by truck along bumpy roads into the heart of the steppe, was not without risks.

Despite monitoring by experts, one of the horses sat down in his container even before taking off, raising the risk of stopping the blood flow to his legs.

"The journey could have been dangerous so we decided to leave him alone," said Miroslav Bobek, the director of Prague Zoo.

There are now 2,000 Przewalski horses around the world, mainly in China and Mongolia but also in France, Russia and even living in the wild in the Chernobyl exclusion zone between Belarus and Ukraine.

Following the April 1986 Chernobyl disaster, 30 specimens were introduced there in 1998. The population has flourished and is now at 210.

In Kazakhstan, the Przewalski horse is not the only endangered species to have received special attention.

The round-snouted Saiga antelope, once on the brink of extinction, has also seen its population grow to about two million thanks to conservation policies by Kazakh authorities and non-governmental organisations.

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

How do we detect radiation?

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

113 years ago this month, X and Walther Müller invented a device to detect ionising radiation. A tube is filled with an inert gas across which a high voltage is applied. When ionising radiation strikes the gas, it dislodges an electron, which knocks out other electrons and all of which flow as an amplified current thanks to the voltage. Name X.

QUESTION 2

A _____ _____ consists of a chamber filled with high-voltage wires that are connected to the walls. The chamber is filled with a gas like argon. When a charged particle strikes the gas, as in Q1, more electrons are produced and they collect on a nearby wire, which produces a readout. The flow of readouts from multiple wires can help scientists recreate the particle's path. Fill in the blanks.

QUESTION 3

One of history's most famous radiation-detecting instruments is the _____ _____. An airtight chamber is loaded with a liquid high in potential energy. When radiation passes through the liquid, it leaves behind a trail of small air pockets. Fill in the blanks.

QUESTION 4

In the technique of using photographic plates to capture images, silver salts were deposited on thin plates of _____. Before the advent of digital imaging, this material was replaced with plastic. Fill in the blank.

QUESTION 5

Y are materials that, when an energetic particle strikes them, produce a flash of light. In his gold-foil experiment, Ernest Rutherford used zinc sulphide as a Y. Name Y.

Answers to June 6 quiz:

1. Adjective derived from Greek philosopher's name

– **Ans: Euclidean**

2. European mathematician who adopted hyperbolic geometry for spacetime

– **Ans: Hermann Minkowski**

3. Geometry branch studying spaces where parallel lines can't exist

– **Ans: Elliptic geometry**

4. Latin name for the isosceles triangle theorem

– **Ans: Pons asinorum**

5. Name for a polygon with an infinite number of sides

– **Ans: Apeirogon**

Visual: **János Bolyai**

First contact: K.N. Viswanathan | Diya Singh | Sadhan Panda | Avinaveshwar Reddy | Yuganthi Ponnuswamy

Answers to June 7 quiz:

1. Chronic disease linked to gut dysbiosis

– **Ans: Inflammatory bowel disease**

2. Neurotransmitter predominantly produced in the gut

– **Ans: Serotonin**

3. Vitamin crucial for clotting, synthesised by gut bacteria

– **Ans: Vitamin K**

4. Method to transfer gut microbiota to restore healthy gut flora

– **Ans: Faecal microbiota transplant**

5. Type of fibre that feeds beneficial gut bacteria

– **Ans: Prebiotic**

Visual: **Psoriasis**

First contact: Sumesh T.K. | Anil R. | Jovitha Preethi | Feba Paul | Lifiya D. Silva

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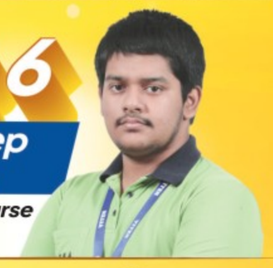
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176 Avaneesh P K Classroom

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The record high equity inflows in the month of May

34,697 in ₹ crore. Equity mutual funds marked an 83% surge from the preceding month, propelled by contributions from thematic funds. PTI

Number of countries to attend Swiss-hosted Ukraine summit

90 Of the 160 invitations sent out, many countries and organisations, half from Europe, have confirmed attending the Swiss-hosted Ukraine peace summit despite Russia's refusal to participate. AP

The number of internally displaced people in Sudan

10 million. The tally of internally displaced people in Sudan include 2.83 million driven from their homes before the current war began. More than 2 million other people have been driven abroad. AP

The cut in interest rate in Pakistan's central bank

20.5 in per cent. Amidst better than anticipated decline in inflation, State Bank of Pakistan reduced interest rate by 1.5 per cent points to 20.5% amidst improvement in inflation. PTI

The number of sunstroke deaths confirmed in Odisha

41 This summer season, 159 cases of alleged sunstroke deaths have been reported in Odisha. Of these, 45 deaths were found not to be due to sunstroke. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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On Special Category Status for Andhra

Why is the demand for special status for Andhra Pradesh back in the political limelight? Why did Chandrababu Naidu, back in 2018, settle for a special package? Is the State qualified to be granted special status? What did the 14th Finance Commission state?

EXPLAINER

Sumit Bhattacharjee

The story so far:
The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, which bifurcated unified Andhra Pradesh into two States, was notified on March 1, 2014 and had come into force from June 2, 2014. While the Act had specified many things, there was no mention of giving a Special Category Status (SCS) to Andhra Pradesh. Now with the completion of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the demand for SCS to Andhra is again gaining attention.

What is the history?
Shortly after the reorganisation, in a debate in the Rajya Sabha on February 20, 2014, the then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had said that "SCS would be extended to the State of Andhra Pradesh for a period of five years". This was appreciated and seconded by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader M. Venkaiah Naidu.

But after Prime Minister Narendra Modi took over the reigns of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA)-led Union Government, the SCS was put on the back burner. When it was raised in both Houses by the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and opposition MPs, it was said that Andhra Pradesh does not qualify for the SCS, firstly as per norms and secondly due to the dissolution of the Planning Commission in August 2014. The 14th Finance Commission had equated SCS with the general category status and had annulled SCS for new States.

Why does AP not qualify for the SCS?
The concept of SCS was first brought into existence through the recommendations made by the Fifth Finance Commission in 1969. It was done to benefit a few States through special grants from the Centre. The focus was on States that had socio-economic issues and geographical disadvantages, such as hilly States.

In progress: Ongoing construction of the bridge at Amaravathi, Andhra Pradesh on June 10. RAO G.N.

Five factors stood as the qualifying benchmark for the granting of SCS – States that comprise a majority tribal population, low density of population, hilly States and close to international borders, States that have socio-economic and industrial backwardness, and lack of adequate State finances. At present, the States that have the SCS include Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, and Uttarakhand.

It was debated that Andhra Pradesh, based on the above strictures, does not qualify for the SCS and that the Finance Commission had already annulled it. However, the Centre offered Andhra Pradesh a special package (SP).

What did the special package entail?
Having been convinced that the SCS was ruled out by the Union Government, the first Chief Minister of residual Andhra Pradesh (2014- 2019), Chandrababu Naidu of the TDP, who was then part of the NDA alliance, agreed for the SP. The SP included the recognition of the Polavaram irrigation project as a national project with full funding from the Union Government, tax concessions and special assistance. Though Mr. Naidu accepted the SP, it was termed as a betrayal by the Opposition parties, including the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP).

In 2018, Mr. Naidu walked out of the alliance and also moved a no-confidence motion which failed. Political analysts say that Mr. Naidu had succumbed to pressure from the opposition, who were building up a strong campaign against the TDP, based on the SCS issue. His volte-face from SCS to SP was being publicised as a 'betrayal of the State'.

Does Andhra still qualify for SCS?
N.K. Singh, Chairman of the 15th Finance Commission, in his book *Portraits of Power*, stated that the 14th Finance Commission had never said that SCS cannot be given and that it was up to the Union Government to take a call.

The 14th Finance Commission instead of SCS had increased tax devolution to the State to 42% and also introduced revenue deficit grants for States facing a revenue gap, which Andhra had already received.

SCS, which has an arrangement of funding States in a ratio of 90:10 (90% the Centre and 10% the State), may not be a ruled out chapter for Andhra Pradesh. The Union Government can take a call and refer it to the 16th Finance Commission and the NITI Aayog, and can get back to the arrangement.

Why is SCS in the limelight again?
Ever since the bifurcation of the State, it has been facing a revenue deficit. Additionally, the debts of the State have shot up enormously. Most of its projects and development have come to a standstill and on top of that the building for a new greenfield capital at Amaravati is pending and needs funding.

People are hopeful that since the TDP is again part of the NDA alliance which does not have a clear majority in the Centre, and is dependent on the MPs from Andhra Pradesh, it would be the right time to press for the SCS, for the overall development of the State.

THE GIST

- The concept of SCS was first brought into existence through the recommendations made by the Fifth Finance Commission in 1969. It was done to benefit a few States through special grants from the Centre.
- Five factors stood as the qualifying benchmark for the granting of SCS — States that comprise a majority tribal population, low density of population, hilly States and close to international borders, States that have socio-economic and industrial backwardness, and lack of adequate State finances.
- Ever since the bifurcation of unified Andhra Pradesh, the residual State has been facing a revenue deficit. Additionally, the debts of the State have shot up enormously.

What is happening in French territory of New Caledonia?

What does the new amendment bill on voters' list stipulate? Why are Kanaks against it?

Padmashree Anandhan
Neha Tresa George

The story so far:
On June 3, the Socialist Kanak National Liberation Front (FLNKS) of the south pacific French territory of New Caledonia called for French President Emmanuel Macron to abandon the plan to modify the electoral reform.

What happened?
Widespread protests and riots erupted in New Caledonia in response to the French parliament's decision to amend the voters' list. The new amendment bill will pave the way for incorporating citizens who were either born or lived in the territory for at least 10 years. Kanaks, the indigenous community of the territory, opposed this on claims that it diluted their electoral power thus marginalising them. The Kanaks comprise 43% of the 1,45,000 population, while the European (French loyalists), Wallisians and Futunians comprise 37%. The new voting amendment will give majority to the loyalists undermining the Kanaks' future towards decolonisation. This would also mean an alteration of the internal political environment towards French settlers.

What is history of the archipelago?
New Caledonia had Kanaks as the original inhabitants. France gained control of the territory in 1853 and governed the Kanaks with reservations. After the Second World War, colonial laws were abolished and the Kanaks were granted French citizenship. In the 1960s, increased migration from France turned the Kanaks into a minority in New Caledonia. Angered by their deteriorating socio-economic status and lack of economic and political involvement, an independence movement grew along with the emergence of the FLNKS in 1984. Thus, tensions soared between the Kanaks and loyalists between from 1984 to 1988 which ended with the signing of the Matignon agreements in 1988 and the Nouméa Accord in 1998 between the Kanaks and the French government. This allowed the transfer of powers from Paris to local authorities along with three referendums to decide the territory's independence.

The independence referendums held in 2018 and 2020 were in favour of France, and against an independent New Caledonia. Kanaks requested to postpone the third and final referendum due to COVID-19 in 2021, but the French disregarded the request. A lower turnout ensured a 96% result against an independent state. This infuriated the Kanaks who then opposed talks with the French government.

Why do Kanaks want independence?
Post World War II, after the granting of French citizenship and transforming the French colonies into overseas territories, New Caledonia's migration pattern increasingly reflected that, of what the Kanaks call, "settler colonialism."

Under this new model, social inequalities widened leading to the exploitation of the indigenous community. This was observed in the steel and nickel mining sectors, where indigenous people remained as labour while the non-indigenous people reaped economic and political benefits. And despite France's promise to reverse social inequalities and better Kanaks' political participation, the 2019 census showcased the poverty rate among Kanaks to be 32.5%, while only nine per cent of non-Kanaks experienced poverty. The scope of economic progress being stalled and the vote by the French Parliament to alter the electoral composition is seen as a move to end Kanak independence.

What is the French endgame?
First, achieving tactical peace. More violence would mean an increased threat to overseas French citizens and a risk to Mr. Macron's party's reputation.

Second, integration is key to France's Indo-Pacific strategy. France considers itself an Indo-Pacific power through its overseas territories which combined makes it the second largest Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Additionally, the large number of French citizens authenticates French governance. The Islands represent a strategic position for France in the Indo-Pacific, especially against China. Therefore, to seal its presence in these territories, integration becomes necessary which is difficult as Kanaks demand independence.

The authors are researchers at NIAS, Bengaluru.

THE GIST

- Widespread protests and riots erupted in New Caledonia in response to the French parliament's decision to amend the voters' list. The new amendment bill will pave the way for incorporating citizens who were either born or lived in the territory for at least 10 years.
- Kanaks, the indigenous community of the territory, opposed this on claims that it diluted their electoral power thus marginalising them.
- Post World War II, New Caledonia's migration pattern increasingly reflected that, of what the Kanaks call, "settler colonialism."

Cong. leaders discuss BBMP poll preparations, Brand Bengaluru

Party's poll debacle in the three Lok Sabha seats in Bengaluru was also reviewed at the meeting

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amidst the recent Lok Sabha poll debacle in Bengaluru for the Congress, the party appears to be treading a cautious path by launching preparation well in advance for the polls to the BBMP council, the date for which is yet to be decided.

On Monday, Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar led a delegation of Congress legislators to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to discuss preparations for the BBMP polls. The poll debacle of the Congress in the three Lok Sabha seats in Bengaluru was also reviewed, especially of the Bengaluru Central, party sources said. Discussions were also held on creating Brand Bengaluru, among other issues, sources pointed out.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar having a meeting with MLAs and other officials in Bengaluru on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Though the date for the BBMP polls is not yet decided owing to multiple factors, the preparations for the polls were discussed by the legislators. Sources said that the government is yet to decide on the division of Bengaluru, and that there is no clarity on the number of councils after the division. Besides, the party is also keen on the clarity for OBC quota in the local bodies. "Unless there is clarity on division and OBC quota, the date for the BBMP polls cannot be decided.

The party wants to derive maximum results in the BBMP polls since it has been nearly four years since the council's term has come to an end."

Among others, Ministers Ramalinga Reddy, K.J. George and B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan, Chief Minister's political secretaries Nazeer Ahmed and Govindaraj, besides legislators U.B. Venkatesh, Rizwan Arshad, U.B. Venkatesh, and Krishnappa were present.

Prajwal Revanna remanded in 14 days judicial custody

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 42nd Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate court remanded rape accused and former Janata Dal (Secular) Member of Parliament Prajwal Revanna to 14 days judicial custody on Monday, as his SIT custody ended on Sunday.

The SIT did not seek further custody of Mr. Prajwal Revanna, but intended to seek his custody in other cases pending against him.

Central prison

This means that Mr. Prajwal Revanna will be sent to the central prison at Parappana Agrahara here. He was earlier in SIT custody and had reportedly complained of the condition of the toilet there.

Mr. Prajwal, in SIT custody in the last one week, was taken to his residence at Basavanagudi here for spot inspection. The SIT had earlier conducted a spot *mahazar* at his house at Holenarsipur in Hassan district on Saturday.

Mr. Prajwal was arrested on May 31 after he returned from Munich, Germany. He had fled the country soon after the voting in the Lok Sabha polls on April 26.

Three separate cases have been registered against Mr. Prajwal.

The first case was filed on April 28 at the Holenarsipur Town police station where he and his father, JD (S) MLA H.D. Revanna were accused of sexual harassment by a 47-year-old former house help.

The second case was filed by the Criminal Investigation Department on May 1, after a 44-year-old former member of the Hassan ZP accused Mr. Prajwal Revanna of repeated rape.

The third case, filed at the K.R. Nagar police station in Mysuru, pertains to rape allegations by a woman in her 60s. The police had questioned him about the storing and recording of the videos and about the phone, which had all the recordings and was reportedly destroyed by the accused. Mr. Prajwal Revanna has allegedly denied all allegations and claimed he was not seen in the videos. The police are trying to analyse the crime scene through spot investigation.

Auto union launches 'Nagara Metered Auto' site

Users can book rides on the app by paying only government-fixed fares: ₹30 for the first 2 km and ₹15 for each subsequent km, as displayed on the meter. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Similar to Namma Yatri, another transport union in Bengaluru launched an autorickshaw hailing site on Monday. The Karnataka Rajya Chalakara Parishath (Karnataka State Driver's Council), in collaboration with Agnibhu Technologies, has launched the 'Nagara Metered Auto', and it will be available on the website.

Karnataka Rajya Chalakara Parishath's K. Somashekar said that users can book rides through the app by paying only government-fixed fares: ₹30 for the first 2 km and ₹15 for each subsequent km, as displayed on the meter. He said, "There will be no surge pricing or commission, though drivers might need to pay a small subscription fee. In the first phase, we aim to enroll at least 1,000 drivers. Only autorickshaws with calibrated meters certified by the State Legal Metrology Department will be eligible for enrollment."

This project is a collaboration with Agnibhu technology, BrandPride Mobility and Bengaluru professional autorickshaw drivers. To book a ride, commuters must visit Nagaraa.com. Once a driver accepts the ride, the commuter provides the driver with an OTP. At the beginning of the trip, the driver activates the auto meter and navigates using the app's map.

"Upon completing the trip, the driver inputs the traveled distance on the site and the passenger pays the fare displayed on the meter, which is certified by the Legal Metrology Department. Payment can be made directly to the driver in cash or via UPI. Another way of using the app is street-hailing, where passengers can book a ride by scanning the driver's QR code," Niranjanaradhya N., CEO of Brand Pride Mobility Pvt. Ltd. said.

Transport unions in the city launched several apps to compete with big apps. In 2017, the JD(S)-backed cab aggregator Namma TYGR was launched but did not succeed. In November 2022, ARDU, led by D. Rudramurthy, launched Namma Yatri with Juspay. Peace Auto Union launched Rook, which is not functional now. In September 2023, ARDU launched MetroMitra for last-mile connectivity from metro stations, but it didn't pick up yet.

'U.S. and India have emerged as like-minded, trusted partners'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The U.S.-India Major Defense Partnership has become a pillar of global peace and security, says U.S. Rear Admiral Michael Baker during the 'Partners in Progress' symposium highlighting U.S.-India, Indo-Pacific defense ties in Bengaluru.

"In these troubled times, when the world is going through struggles and contestations, U.S. and India have emerged as likeminded and trusted partners," said Assistant Chief of the Indian Naval Staff Rear Admiral (RAdm) Nirbhay Bapna. He, along with Senior Defense Official and U.S. Defense Attaché Rear Admiral Michael Baker, and Christ University Vice Chancellor Rev. Dr. Jose CC, inaugurated the "Partners in Progress" symposium jointly organised by Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, and Christ University, Bengaluru, with support from the U.S. Consulate General Chennai on Monday in Bengaluru.

Emerging domains

"The 75-year partnership has become a comprehensive global strategic partnership. There is convergence between the two countries in their shared vision for a peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific region. Information sharing and maritime domain awareness is a priority area of cooperation for both the countries. Looking ahead, the partnership is set to deepen further. Both nations are likely to enhance collaboration in emerging domains like cybersecurity, space, underwater, and artificial intelligence. The evolving security dynamics underscore the importance of a strong Indo-U.S. naval partnership, which is a testimony to the strength of Indo-U.S. strategic relationship," added RAdm Bapna.

Pillar of global peace and security

U.S. Rear Admiral Michael Baker, to over 50 subject-matter experts said, "The U.S.-India Major Defense Partnership has become a pillar of global peace and security. Our countries are making substantial progress through joint exercises, the reinforcement of defense industrial cooperation, the annual 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue, and other consultative mechanisms. These efforts contribute to progressing forward an advanced and comprehensive defense partnership, ensuring close coordination between our militaries across all domains. Both countries are vital partners in efforts to ensure that the Indo-Pacific is a region of peace, stability, and growing prosperity and economic inclusion."

The symposium focused on thematic areas such as the U.S.-India strategic landscape and its impact, defense and security dialogues, defense technology trade and production, and military interoperability.

Toll on stretch of Satellite Town Ring Road from June 14

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With the Lok Sabha elections concluded, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) will begin collecting a fee from motorists on the Dabaspet-Doddaballapur stretch of Satellite Town Ring Road (STRR) from June 14. The road runs from Dabaspet to Hoskote.

The fee will be collected at the toll plaza in Hulikunte. It will be applicable to all private and commercial vehicles, with the exception of two-wheelers.

According to the NHAI, cars will be charged ₹105 for a one-way trip and ₹155 for a round trip completed within 24 hours. Additionally, a monthly pass for 50 one-way journeys will cost ₹3,490.

This is the second toll collection plaza on the STRR. NHAI initiated fee collection at Nelluru-Devanahalli toll plaza, located at 34.15 km, on November 17, 2023.

The Satellite Town Ring Road (STRR) encircles Bengaluru city, running from Dobbaspet to Hosur. It aims to decongest the city. Work is being implemented by the NHAI under the Bharatmala Pariyojana scheme.

Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Ltd.
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001704)
Regd. Office: 2nd Floor, JUSNL (SLDC) Building Kusai Colony, Doranda, Ranchi - 834002
Fax No.:0651-2400123 (E-mail:cetjusnl@gmail.com)

e-TENDER NOTICE

NIT No. – 16/PR/ JUSNL/ 2024-25

E-tender in two parts i.e. Technical (Part-I) and Financial (Part – II) is invited from reputed, capable, experienced and financially sound firm for the following works : -

Name of work	Design, Engineering, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 220/33kV, 2x65 MVA Grid Sub- Station including construction of Control Room Building with other Civil works at the Campus of 220/33kV Grid Sub- Station, NTPC, Pakri Barwadih on turnkey basis
Estimated cost (Rs.)	Rs. 32,33,25,020.00 (including GST & all other levies)
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 64,66,500.00 On line mode
Completion Period	15 (Fifteen) Months
e-Tender fee	Rs. 20,000.00 + 18% GST On line mode.
Start Date & Time of Download the Tender Documents	14.06.2024 at 11:00 AM
Start Date and time of upload of BID	14.06.2024 at 11:00 AM
End date and time of upload of BID	04.07.2024 upto 04:00 PM
BID Opening date for technical part	05.07.2024 at 04:00 PM
BID Opening date for price part	Will be communicated
Procurement Officer and address for communication	General Manager, C&M (NWBP), 2nd Floor, JUSNL (SLDC) Building, Kusai Colony, Doranda, Ranchi – 834002

1. e-Tender document and BOQ including terms & conditions, tender specification can be downloaded from website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the office of the undersigned **(8987421011)** during office hours.
2. The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only.
3. No claim shall be entertained on account of disruption of internet services being used by bidders. Bidders are advised to upload their bids well in advance to avoid last minute technical snag.

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचावें। कृपया अपनी शिकयतों को 18003456570(कॉल सेन्टर) पर दर्ज करायें।

Sd/-
General Manager, C&M (NWBP)
JUSNL,Ranchi

PR 325823 Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Ltd(24-25)D

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, JUN. 11
RISE 05:53 SET 18:46
RISE 10:05 SET 23:03

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 12
RISE 05:53 SET 18:46
RISE 10:55 SET 23:41

THURSDAY, JUN. 13
RISE 05:53 SET 18:46
RISE 11:42 SET 00:00

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	31	22
Bengaluru	30	21

Bengaluru Today
30°C Morning will be pleasant Day will be slight warm and humid. Short spell of light rain & thundershower is a chance. Night also will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
31°C The weather will be slight warm and humid Spell of light rain and thundershower with gusty winds may occur.

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THE HINDU
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Three held for assaulting ambulance driver

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Nelamangala Rural police have arrested three people who, in an inebriated state, had allegedly attacked an ambulance driver ferrying a five-month-old baby to hospital for an emergency case over a road rage incident near Nelamagala toll gate on Sunday evening.

The accused, identified as Yuvaraj Singh, Manjunath, Lateesh and one more of their associates, allegedly chased the ambulance heading to Vani Vilas Hospital from Tumakuru for emergency treatment of the infant.

The accused allegedly chased the ambulance and confronted the driver near the toll gate over road rage dragged the driver John outside and assaulted him. They even snatched his keys when the parents of the baby were pleading with them to let them go as the baby was critical and needed emergency treatment.

However, the accused continue to assault John and created a ruckus in the middle of the road until the patrolling vehicle reached to allow the ambulance to move further. John later filed a complaint with the Nelamangala Rural police followed by a protest by a group of ambulance drivers seeking legal action against the attackers.

Based on the complaint and the details of the vehicle provided, the police tracked down the trio and arrested them under assault and drunk driving and public nuisance charges.

It may be recalled that the Wilson Garden police arrested a city-based realtor for allegedly harassing an ambulance driver carrying an accident victim to NIMHANS and misbehaved with the police who tried to pacify him.

சித்த மருத்துவ மைய ஆராய்ச்சி நிலையம்
(மத்திய சித்த மருத்துவ ஆராய்ச்சிக் குழுமம், ஆயுஷ் அமைச்சகம், இந்திய அரசு)
सिद्ध केंद्रीय अनुसंधान संस्थान
SIDDHA CENTRAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(Central Council for Research in Siddha, Chennai, Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India)
Anna Govt. Hospital Campus, Arumbakkam, Chennai - 600106, E-mail: crisiddha@gmail.com
Phone: 044-26214925, 26214809, Web: http://crisiddha.tn.nic.in

Advt. No: 1/2024
Walk-in Interview

Walk-in interview for the post of Senior Research Fellow (Pharmaceutical Sciences) - 1 No.,under the IMR research project titled "Formulation and Optimization of Orally Disintegrating Tablets (ODT's), Single and Bilayer tablet formulations to be developed in classical Siddha formulation to enhance patient Compliance" will be held at Siddha Central Research Institute, Chennai on 26.06.2024 at 10.00 a.m. Details are available on the websites **www.siddhacouncil.com** and **www.crisiddha.tn.nic.in.**

Research Officer (Siddha), Sci-IV & I/c

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PLANNING AND INVESTIGATION DIVISION
ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT (RCD),RANCHI
NirupanBhawan, 3rdFloor,Room No. 401,56-Set,Doranda,Ranchi-834002

e-Procurement (Very Short Tender Notice)
Letter of Invitation (LOI) No.-02/2024-25
2nd Call
e-Tender Ref No:–RCD/PID/RANCHI/02/2024-25 Date:-07.06.2024

1	Name Of Work	Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report for Construction of (i) Sini Bajrangbali mandir to Kandra via Hudu road (Tentative Length -20 Km) (ii) Bhurkuli (NH-220) to Saraikela Chaibasa main road via Bandua, Sidadih (Tentative Length -15 Km) (Tentative Total Length -35 Km) including replacement/New Proposal of Culverts, Bridges, ROB's, RUB's, Complete Land Acquisition Plan including Ownership details all complete as per latest guidelines, Resettlement and Rehabilitation Proposal, Forest Diversion Proposal and Utility Shifting Proposal in details etc. as required by the Department (If any) under Saraikela Kharsawan District in the State of Jharkhand.*Only Empanelled consultant with RCD under category-I vide letter No. 3063(S) WE Dated 22.08.2022 are allowed to bid.
2	Tentative Length	35 Km
3	Period of Completion of Work	90 Days
4	Cost of Tender documents & Earnest Money Deposit	Cost of tender documents is Rs. 5000/ (Non-Refundable) EMD:- The quotationers have to deposit a fixed amount of Rs 40000.00 (Forty thousand only) as Earnest Money. As per the Departmental Letter no.-4652(S) dated 06.10.2023, cost of tender document and Earnest Money Deposit will be received in online mode only through e-procurement portal (http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in) by internet banking/NEFT/RTGS facility as per Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) issued by Information Technology & e-Governance Department, Government of Jharkhand vide letter no- 120 dated 03.10.2023.
5	Mode of Bid Submission	e-tendering(https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in/)
6	Date/Time of Publication of Tender on Website	11.06.2024,10:30 AM
7	Online Last Date/Time of Bid Submission	18.06.2024 12:00 Noon
8	Date and Time of Bid opening	19.06.2024 12:30 PM
9	Bid validity	120 days
10	Designation and Contact no. of Tender inviting Officer	Executive Engineer, Planning and Investigation DivisionRCD, Ranchi, Mob No.-8083039058

Note:- Only e-Tender shall be accepted. Further details can be seen on e-procurement portal (https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in/).

Executive Engineer,
Planning & Investigation Division,
Road Construction Department, Ranchi.

PR.NO.325776 Road(24-25):D

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BUILDING BLOCKS

Heat: how it animates engines and global warming

Understanding the microscopic and macroscopic characteristics of heat has been crucial for metallurgy and materials science, mining, refineries, and a large variety of chemical reactions, among other areas

Vasudevan Mukunth

Heat is animus. It was there at the birth of the universe, and its death will be the universe's death. It is impossible to overstate its importance, both throughout human history and across modern technologies. The innovation of steam-powered pumps and engines in the 17th and 18th centuries, reaching the first of many summits in James Watt's setup in 1764, precipitated the first Industrial Revolution. Today, global warming is forcing us to deliberate on the roles heat plays in our lives.

What is heat?

In the microscope scheme, an object's temperature is the average kinetic energy of its constituent particles. When two bodies at different temperatures come in contact, the temperature of the cooler one will rise and vice versa; heat here is the amount of thermal energy the bodies have exchanged to effect this temperature change. Macroscopically, heat is dealt with as a form of energy with specific characteristics, understood using the tools of thermodynamics and statistical mechanics, among other fields.

A medium can absorb heat at one location and dissipate it at another – a possibility that forms the basis of many modern technologies, including thermal and nuclear power plants and air conditioning. Engineers have developed ways to convert heat into mechanical energy, paving the way for machines like the internal combustion engine.

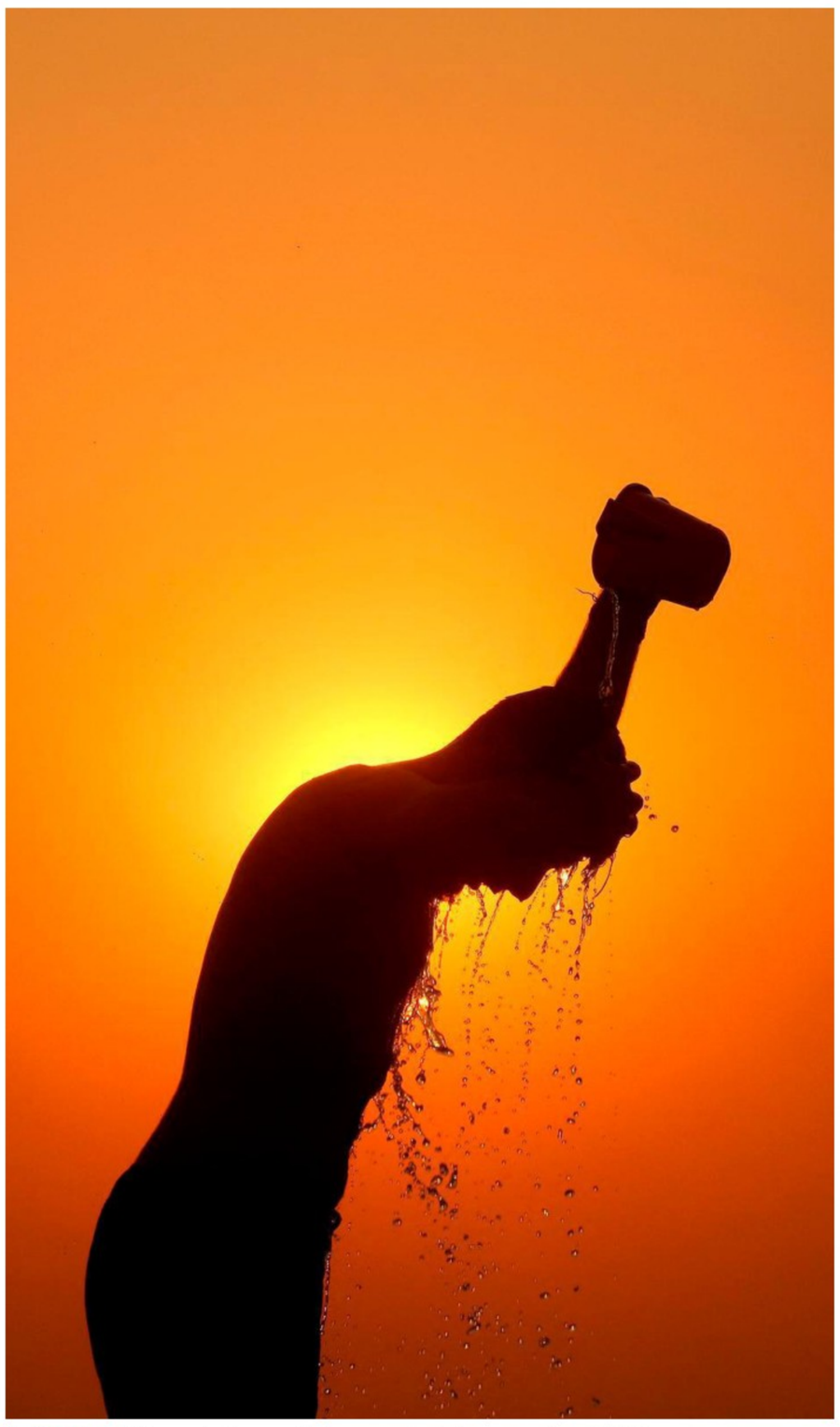
How is heat used?

Perhaps the best way to understand heat is through an application. Let's start with two examples: internal combustion engines (ICEs) and thermal power plants.

An ICE converts heat to (mechanical) work, and in this sense is a practical application of a theoretical entity called the Carnot cycle. This cycle describes the maximum thermodynamic efficiency an engine converting heat to work can have. To begin with, the engine has four components: a hot reservoir (a system with more heat), a cold reservoir (a system with less heat), an ideal gas in between (through which heat moves from the hot to the cold reservoirs), and a piston adjacent to the ideal gas. Each cycle has four steps.

In the first step (isothermal expansion), the ideal gas is insulated from the cold reservoir and is exposed to the hot reservoir. Heat moves from the hot reservoir – generated by, say, the combustion of petrol – to the ideal gas. The gas particles are heated up and the gas expands, pushing on the piston. In the second step (isentropic expansion), the gas continues to expand even as it is insulated from both reservoirs, pushing the piston. Its temperature doesn't change due to the insulation but it loses some energy against the piston. The expansion causes it to cool down as well. In these two steps, the piston has done work on its surroundings.

In the third step (isothermal compression), the gas is exposed to the cold reservoir and deposits its leftover heat there. This time, the piston moves downwards. In the fourth and final step (isentropic compression), the gas is insulated from the reservoirs while the piston continues its downward motion. This act compresses the gas and warms it up again, and the cycle can begin all over again. In the last two steps, the surroundings are said to have done work on the piston.



Brutal glare: A labourer bathes on a hot summer day in Jammu on June 1, 2024. AFP

Similarly, in a thermal power plant, the main components are boiler, turbine, generator, condenser, and of course pumps. Let's assume the working fluid here is water. The ideal form of this system is the Rankine cycle, which also plays out in four steps.

In the first (isentropic compression), a pump compresses the water to a high pressure. In the second (heat addition), the water is pumped to the boiler. Here, the water is heated from an energy source – like burning coal or nuclear fission – while the high pressure is maintained, turning the liquid into a saturated vapour (that is, just about to condense).

In the third step (isentropic expansion), the pressurised vapour is pumped to the turbine, where it expands to release heat and its pressure drops. The expansion drives the turbine's blades, which then produce power through a generator. The cooled vapour is pumped to the condenser in the final step (heat removal), where it is condensed at a fixed pressure back to a saturated liquid form (that is, just about to vaporise). The condenser is functionally a heat exchanger, where a coolant like cold water takes heat away from the vapour.

How is heat related to work?

Heat and work have the same physical dimensions. However, not all types of heat can translate to work. For example, if a system does work while also falling out of thermal equilibrium, it will lose some energy in the process. This can happen in an ICE if, say, the machine isn't well-lubricated and the piston's movement against the walls of the combustion chamber experiences friction. Such loss of 'useful heat' is closely related to the concept of entropy, which represents a sort of disorderliness in a system such that the corresponding heat cannot contribute to useful work.

Likewise, when a system does work without losing or gaining heat energy – as in the isentropic expansion and compression steps of the Carnot cycle – the process is said to be adiabatic. Completely adiabatic processes are reversible.

The various components of ICEs and thermal power plants are designed to alternate some medium that is transporting heat between different states, in steps that maximise the amount of work and minimise entropy changes and other energy leaks.

What are some applications of heat?

Understanding the microscopic and macroscopic characteristics of heat has been crucial for metallurgy and materials science, mining, refineries, a large variety of chemical reactions, semiconductor electronics, meteorology, and transportation, among other areas.

Heat also has a starring role in Heating, Ventilation, and Air-Conditioning (HVAC) systems. Many cold countries generate and transport heat to homes and offices from centralised facilities, while individual homes also use electric heaters – which convert electric energy to heat energy by passing an electric current through a resistor – to keep people warm. Of late, many experts have articulated a 'right to air-conditioning' for the people of low- and middle-income countries suffering debilitating heat.

Heat engines like ICEs and steam engines use the Carnot cycle. Heat pumps, which are air-conditioners that warm the air instead of cooling it, use the reverse Carnot cycle. Similarly, air-conditioners that are used to cool large spaces, like halls, and the insides of cars use the reverse Rankine cycle. Other cycles, depending on the heat-transporting medium and the desired operating conditions, include the Brayton, gas-generator, regenerative, Siemens, and Stirling cycles.

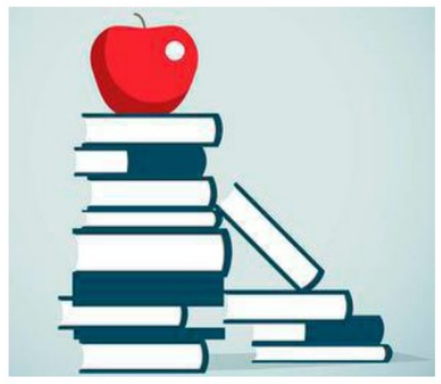
How is heat implicated in climate change?

The world is responding to climate change on two fronts: mitigation and adaptation. Vis-à-vis climate mitigation, researchers around the world are devising new ways to produce heat energy for various applications without involving the combustion of fossil fuels and/or finding ways to reduce emissions from existing technologies – while policymakers are finding new ways to incentivise the uptake of these solutions.

Heat in climate adaptation is most familiar to Indians in the form of heat waves. During a heat wave, how healthy the body already is and how well it can prevent the accumulation of heat are very important.

The former depends on long-term living conditions, access to clean living conditions, and access to healthcare; the latter speaks to the short-term means available for a body to slow its accumulation of heat. Beyond a wet-bulb temperature of around 32 degrees Celsius, even short durations of non-strenuous outdoor activity can cause grievous harm.

Global warming itself is fundamentally a heat problem. Of the energy coming to the earth from the Sun, some is reflected, some is absorbed by the atmosphere, and some warms the ground. At night-time, the planet releases this absorbed energy in the form of infrared radiation. Greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, methane, and water vapour, absorb this radiation, translate it to kinetic energy and warm up the atmosphere, reducing the efficiency with which the earth's surface can cool down.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmaniam

"Fly in the ointment (A. K. Dhan, New Delhi)"

"A fly in the ointment is 'something that spoils an otherwise satisfactory situation.' The idiom has its origin in the Bible. 'Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking flavour: so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour' (Ecclesiastee, 10:1).

It was a nice party. But he was the only fly in the ointment."

"Weigh in with (K. R. Sreenidhi, Srikakulam)"

" 'To weigh in with' means 'to join in a discussion, an argument, etc. by saying something important or convincing; to contribute confidently.

When the government's policies were being severely criticised at the meeting, the minister weighed in with strong arguments in support of the government.

'Weigh on' means 'to make somebody's mind anxious.'

Inflation is weighing heavily on the minds of the public.

His son's behaviour weighs on him."

"The Present Perfect Tense."

" 'Since and for' are used with the present perfect tense.

I have not seen him since Monday.

I have not gone there since March 1991.

He has not come here for the last four months.

'Since Monday' means from Monday up to now. Please note that 'up to' is two words and not one word. 'Since' is used when you want to refer to a period of time beginning from a point of time mentioned after 'since' up to now. He has not been here since 1990. The last time he was here was in 1990 and he has not been here till now.

I have not eaten since morning.

I have been here since two O' clock.

One hundred people have been arrested since June.

'Since' is followed by a point of time in the past and is preceded by the present perfect. You don't say 'I did not see him since 1990.' It must be 'I haven't seen him since 1990.' 'For' is used to convey how long something has been going on. It refers to a period of time. 'Since' goes with a point of time and 'for' with a period of time.

He has not been here for two years.

She has worked here since 1985.

She has worked here for six years.

The house has been vacant since March.

The house has been vacant for several years.

We have lived here for ten years and not we live here for ten years. I have known him for several years and not I know him for several years. So 'for' is used with the present perfect to convey how long something has been going on and 'since' is used with the present perfect to convey when something started in the past and is continuing up to now. There is a difference between 'he has gone' and 'he is gone.' 'He has gone' means he has left. 'He is gone' emphasises the state, it means he is absent, he is no longer here.

She was here a few minutes ago and now she is gone.

She is going to be gone for a long time."

Published in The Hindu on March 24, 1992.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

The 17th edition of the EURO championship kicks off in Munich, Germany on June 14. Here is a quiz on this prestigious championship

Soorya Prakash. N

QUESTION 1
How many countries hosted the last edition of Euro in 2020?

QUESTION 2
Which country has finished in the top four the most number of times?

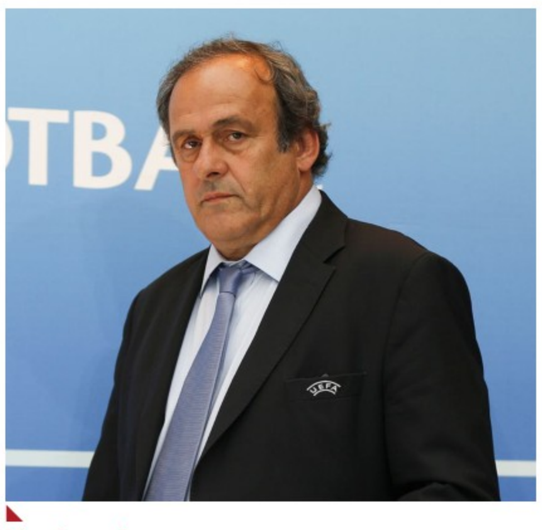
QUESTION 3
Name the countries that have won the championship when they also happened to be the host?

QUESTION 4
I hold almost all individual records as far as European Football Championships are concerned. I played in most tournaments, most matches and most minutes, have won most matches, scored most goals, with at least one goal in each of the tournaments I played in. Who am I?

QUESTION 5
I won the player of the tournament award and also scored the most number of goals in that tournament, yet my country did not win the Championship in that edition. Who am I?

QUESTION 6
Who scored the first ever hat-trick in the European Football Championship, all as a substitute?

QUESTION 7
Who is the only player to have won the Euro Championship both as a player and as a coach?



Visual question:
Identify this football player and the single distinction he holds in European Football Championship history. AFP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:

1. The only bowler from a non-test playing nation to have picked up a hat-trick. **Ans: Karthik Meiyappan of UAE**
2. The only player to have won the player of the final award twice. **Ans: Marlon Samuels**
3. The only player to have won the player of the final award and player of the tournament award in the same edition. **Ans: Sam Curran in 2022**
4. The only player to have ended up scoring the most runs in a single tournament twice and also won player of the tournament award twice consecutively. **Ans: Virat Kohli**
5. The only bowler to have picked up six wickets in an innings. **Ans: Ajantha Mendis**
6. The only Indian player to have scored a 100 in T20 World Cup history. **Ans: Suresh Raina**
7. This umpire has stood on-field in three finals. **Ans: Simon Taufel**

Visual: Identify the players. **Ans: Umar Gul and Wanindu Hasaranga; both took the most wickets in an edition twice consecutively**

Early Birds: K.N. Viswanathan| Jagdish Godara| Akshansh Thakur| P. R. Srinivasan

Word of the day

Meliorism:
the belief that the world can be made better by human effort

Usage: *As a believer in meliorism, I still feel the climate crisis can be solved.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/meliorismpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈmiːlɪəɹɪz(ə)m/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Gang of nine and undertrials clash in central prison

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tension gripped the central prison at Parappana Agrahara in Bengaluru for some time when a gang of nine clashed with seven undertrials of an adjacent barrack around 6.30 p.m. on Friday when prison officials were on routine rounds.

The accused attacked seven undertrials with stones. Officials used canes to bring the situation under control. They stepped up security in and around the prison as a precautionary measure. The injured were shifted to the prison hospital.

A preliminary inquiry revealed that the accused had an old grudge against the seven inmates.

Chief Superintendent of Prison Mallikarjun filed a complaint with the Parappana Agrahara police seeking legal action against the accused for violating prison rules and indiscipline.

The police registered a case of assault against the accused on Saturday.

Medical student found dead

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 22-year-old medical student was found dead inside his hostel room at a government college in Bengaluru on Monday. The deceased has been identified as Lokendra Kumar Singh from Rajasthan.

Singh, a first year student, was found hanging in his hostel room at Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College and Research Institution (formerly Bowring and Lady Curzon Medical College and Research Institute) on Lady Curzon Road. His roommate returned from class at 3 p.m. to find that the room was locked, an official said. "They broke open the door and found the victim dead. The body was shifted to a hospital," the official added.

A senior officer said that Singh's parents were informed and further legal procedures would be initiated once they arrived in the city on Tuesday. There was no suicide note, the police said, adding that they recovered his phone and laptop and are awaiting his parents' arrival to investigate further.

(Those in distress or having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahayavani on 104 for help.)

Visvesvaraya Technological University
(State University of Government of Karnataka Established as per the VTU Act, 1994)
Jnana Sangama', Belagavi - 590 018, Karnataka State
Phone:(0831) 2405468 Fax:(0831)5405467

Ref.No.VTU/PS/2024-25/1052 Date: 08.06.2024

NOTIFICATION

Sub: Twenty-Fourth Annual Convocation (Part-I) to award Under Graduate and Research Degrees of VTU – reg.

******

It is hereby informed that the **Twenty-fourth Annual Convocation (Part-I) to award Under Graduate and Research Degrees of VTU, is scheduled to be held on Thursday, 18th July 2024, at 11-00 a.m., in the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Auditorium, "Jnana Sangama" Campus of VTU, Belagavi**. The awardees of the above degree are hereby cordially invited to attend the Convocation.

In this Convocation Ceremony, the Degrees will be awarded only to the Gold Medalists and Rank Holders of 2023-2024 batch of Under Graduate Programmes and to the candidates eligible for the award of Ph.D. Degree.

All candidates are required to note the following:

The candidates shall :

* Be present in the Auditorium with neat white dress as mentioned in the University Website
* Occupy the seats in the Auditorium at least half an hour earlier to the commencement of Convocation Ceremony
* Candidates are advised Not to attend the Convocation Ceremony if symptoms of fever / cold / cough
* Standup when the Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka the Chancellor and other dignitaries enters the hall and remain so until they occupy the chairs
* Maintain silence and discipline throughout the Ceremony
* Switch off mobile phone in the premises
* Not to leave their position till the dignitaries leaves the hall after the Ceremony is over
* Follow the instructions issued by the Registrar(Evaluation) regarding Registration and other protocols of Convocation

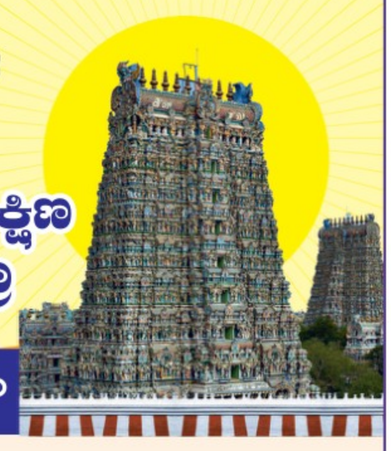
Other candidates, who wish to collect the Degree Certificates personally, can collect the same from the Office of the Registrar (Evaluation) the next working day, on **19th July 2024**, during the office hours on producing valid identity card issued by the college. The certificates of the rest of the candidates will be sent to the concerned colleges after the Convocation.

By order
(Dr. B. E. Rangaswamy)
Registrar

ಶ್ರೀ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ
ಸನ್ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳು

ಧಾರ್ಮಿಕ ದತ್ತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಭಾರತ್ ಗೌರವ್ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳ ಯಾತ್ರಾ



ರಾಮೇಶ್ವರ – ಕನ್ಯಾಕುಮಾರಿ – ಮದುರೈ – ತಿರುವನಂತಪುರಂ

ಐಆರ್‌ಸಿಟಿಸಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಬುಕ್ಕಿಂಗ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ

ಸಹಾಯಧನ: ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ
ಪ್ರತಿ ಯಾತ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಗೆ ರೂ.5,000/-

ಮಾನ್ಯ ಉಪ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳಾದ
ಶ್ರೀ ಡಿ.ಕೆ. ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ರವರೊಂದಿಗೆ
ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮುಜರಾಯಿ ಸಚಿವರಾದ
ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಮಲಿಂಗಾರೆಡ್ಡಿರವರು ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ದೃಶ್ಯ

ವಿಶೇಷ ರೈಲು ಹೊರಡಲಿರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು

ನಿರ್ಗಮನ	ಆಗಮನ
23.06.2024	28.06.2024
01.07.2024	06.07.2024

ರೈಲು ಹತ್ತುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಇಳಿಯುವ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣಗಳ ವಿವರ

ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ | ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ | ಬೀರೂರು | ತುಮಕೂರು | ಹಾವೇರಿ | ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ | ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಯೋಜನೆಯ ವೈಶಿಷ್ಟ್ಯತೆಗಳು :

ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ವೆಚ್ಚದಲ್ಲಿ

- ರಾಮೇಶ್ವರ - ರಾಮೇಶ್ವರ ದೇವಾಲಯ
- ಕನ್ಯಾಕುಮಾರಿ - ಶ್ರೀ ಭಗವತಿ ದೇವಾಲಯ
- ಮದುರೈ - ಶ್ರೀ ಮೀನಾಕ್ಷಿ ದೇವಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು
- ತಿರುವನಂತಪುರಂ - ಶ್ರೀ ಅನಂತಪದ್ಮನಾಭ ಸ್ವಾಮಿ ದೇವಾಲಯಗಳ ದರ್ಶನ

ಯಾತ್ರೆಯ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್ ಮೊತ್ತ : **ರೂ.15,000**/-
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೬ ದಿನಗಳ ಯಾತ್ರೆ ಇದಾಗಿದ್ದು, ೩ ಟೈರ್ ಎ.ಸಿ. ರೈಲು ಪ್ರಯಾಣ, ತಿಂಡಿ-ಊಟ, ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ದರ್ಶನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿದೆ.

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ಧಾರ್ಮಿಕ ದತ್ತಿ ಇಲಾಖಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ 'ಸಿ' ಅಧಿಸೂಚಿತ ದೇವಾಲಯ/ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅರ್ಚಕರು/ನೌಕರರು ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಒಬ್ಬ ಸದಸ್ಯರನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಭಾರತ್ ಗೌರವ್ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳ ಯಾತ್ರೆ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಉಚಿತವಾಗಿ ಯಾತ್ರೆಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

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226 Crore Women Travellers
Rs. 5526 Crore Value of Free Tickets

SRI SIDDARAMAIAH
Hon'ble Chief Minister

DETAILS OF SHAKTI GUARANTEE FROM 11.06.2023 TO 09.06.2024 (IN CRORES)

DETAILS	KSRTC	BMTC	NWKRTC	KKRTC	TOTAL
Total Number of Passengers Travelled	117.64	124.50	86.84	61.58	390.56
Total Number of Women Passengers	69.90	71.46	52.12	33.47	226.95
Ticket value of women Passengers Travelled (Amount in Rs.)	2111.14	937.01	1352.68	1125.81	5526.64

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR'S PERFORMANCE OF FOUR STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS

- Approval accorded for induction of **5800** new buses
- Inducted **2438** buses (KSRTC-814, BMTC-287, NWKRTC-435 and KKRTC-902)
- Inducted Pallakki, Ashwamedha Classic, Kalyana Ratha, Amogha Varsha new buses
- Approval accorded for Recruitment of **9000** posts
- Appointment order issued to **1844** Driver-cum-Conductors and Technical Assistants
- Recruitment for **6500** posts (KSRTC- 2500 Driver-cum-Conductors, BMTC-2000 Conductors, NWKRTC -1000 Drivers and 1000 Conductors) is under process & will be completed soon
- **1277** Old buses have been refurbished
- No. of trips at **158909** prior to Shakti scheme has increased to **169627,** an increase of **10718 trips per day**
- Appointment order issued to **553** dependents of the deceased employees on compassionate grounds
- Disbursed **Rs.1 crore** cheque to the dependents of the deceased employees who died in accidents (On duty/Off duty)
- Enhancement of Accident Relief Compensation from Rs. 3 lakh to **Rs. 10 lakh** to dependents of a passenger died in bus accident while travelling in Corporation bus
- The Family Welfare Insurance Scheme compensation enhanced from Rs. 3 lakh to **Rs.10 lakh** to the family of the deceased employee who expired for reasons other than accident
- KSRTC, BMTC and KKRTC have entered MoU with Shri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research for conducting **heart related Medical Check-ups** for its employees
- **Namma Cargo** logistics service introduced with 20 trucks
- **Sarige Vidya Chetana Scheme** scholarship amount enhanced for children of employees and Rs.2 Cr. have been disbursed.
- **'Cashless'** Medical facilities to NWKRTC Staff with KIMS

Arasikere-based law student presented Hon'ble Chief Minister with a garland made out of free bus tickets which she had travelled.

STATE RTC'S HAVE WON MORE THAN 87 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS DURING LAST ONE YEAR.

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS
Epitome of Safe and Comfort Travel
Accomplished as promised

Five held on charges of stabbing two BJP workers near Mangaluru

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The Konaje police on Monday arrested five persons on charges of stabbing two BJP workers and injuring another while they were returning after celebrating the swearing-in of Narendra Modi as Prime Minister, at Boliyar, near Mangaluru, on Sunday night.

City Police Commissioner Anupam Agrawal identified the arrested persons as Mohammed Shakir, 28, Abdul Razak, 40, Abubaker Siddique, 35, Sawad, 18, and Monu alias Hafeez, 24.

A group of about 25 people allegedly committed the offence at Boliyar on Sunday, as per a complaint by a victim, Krishna Kumar, a resident of Innoli.

Harish, 41, and Nanda Kumar, 24, both residents of Innoli, who were stabbed, are being treated in a nearby private hospital.

Mr. Kumar, in his complaint, told the police that the three were returning home, when the group followed them and attacked them in front of a Boliyar bar. Mr. Agrawal, in a communique, said that the raising of slogans by the victims in front of Boliyar Masjid could have been the trigger for the attack.

Counter-complaint

Meanwhile, Boliyar Jumma Masjid Committee president P.K. Abdulla filed a complaint with the Konaje police, accusing Suresh, Vinay, Subhash, Ranjith, and Dhananjay of raising provocative slogans in front of the masjid on Sunday night.

The police have registered a case under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code for offences of unlawful assembly, rioting, wanton vilification of a religion, breach of public peace, criminal intimidation etc.

MP condemns attack

Condemning the attack on the BJP workers, Dakshina Kannada MP, Capt. Brijesh Chowta said this was the third such incident in the recent past.

The inaction of the police in the previous incidents reported from Belthangady and Ullal had resulted in the present attack, he alleged.

Capt. Chowta said the Congress was unable to digest Modi 3.0.

"The inability of the Congress govt & its backened support to such elements has turned Karnataka into a den of such crime within a year," he said on X.

Condemning the incident, BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra said the attack was a clear indication of the failure of law and order in Karnataka under the Congress rule.

Dakshina Kannada BJP district president Satish Kumpala, in a statement, said miscreants were attempting to create a fear psychosis among people through such incidents, and blamed the Congress government for it.

Mangaluru City South MLA D. Vedavyasa Kamath also condemned the attack.

Meanwhile, Dakshina Kannada district in-charge Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao told reporters in Mangaluru that an impartial investigation would be conducted into the Boliyar incident. There was neither any need to raise provocative slogans nor to react to them, he added.

'Drought relief of ₹3,000 each to be given to 17.9 lakh farmers'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government on Monday decided to transfer ₹3,000 each to 17.9 lakh farmers towards drought compensation. "The compensation is being given to small and marginal farmers. The list of farmers is ready. The government has decided to provide compensation to rain-fed area farmers and those in the tail-end of canals. A total of seven lakh farmers will benefit from the decision," Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda told pressperson here on Monday.

He said that the State government would be giving ₹272 crore along with NDRF. "This decision would cost ₹500 crore. Of the ₹3,454 crore that came under NDRF, ₹2,451 crore has been disbursed to about 27.5 lakh farmers. More farmers would be identified to provide compensation in the remaining amount. The amount would be paid in a week's time. In the past, 25 lakh farmers have been benefited. This time 45 lakh farmers will benefit with the compensation."

Women are subjected to ignominy and a man is not going to lose anything: HC

Court refuses to interfere with probe against a Bharatiya Janata Party worker for alleged circulation of Prajwal Revanna's obscene video clips in public domain

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Monday declined to interfere, at present, with the investigation against a Bharatiya Janata Party worker, who is among the accused persons facing charges of circulating obscene clips, related to "morphed" images and videos clips related to Prajwal Revanna, former Hassan MP, in public domain through pen drives and other modes.

"Any person who has done it [circulation of obscene clips of women], has done a sin. Whoever has done it, they have portrayed every women in poor light. The most dangerous thing for any person who has done this is that you have portrayed women in poor light. You don't know the circumstances under which they have happened. A man is not going to lose anything, it is the women who are subjected to ignominy...", the court observed.

> Any person who has done it [circulation of obscene clips of women], has done a sin. Whoever has done it, they have portrayed every women in a poor light.
> HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

Hearing adjourned

Justice M. Nagaprasanna made these observations orally while adjourning the hearing on the petition filed by Sharath, a resident of Hassan and a BJP worker.

Earlier Additional Public Prosecutor (APP), referring to investigation papers, told the court that certain electronic gadgets related to the petitioner were seized but the petitioner's advocate claimed that no material was seized under *mahazar* and there was no *prima facie* material to show involvement of the petitioner in circulation of obscene video clips.

When the court suggested to the petitioner to appear for investigation before the police, the APP said that the petitioner appeared to be abroad now.

Phone switched off

However, the petitioner's advocate claimed that he [petitioner] was very much in Hassan but he could not contact him as his phone was switched off as he apprehended arrest.

As the petition was filed questioning the registration of a criminal case, the court said that it could not grant anticipatory bail in this proceedings while asking the petitioner's advocate to approach the appropriate court seeking necessary relief.

Other legal remedy

Also, Justice Nagaprasanna made it clear that no interim protection could be granted to the petitioner at present while asking his advocate to move the petition after availing other legal remedy available to him.

LS poll results in State a 'warning bell' for Congress: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC chief D.K. Shivakumar has described the Lok Sabha poll outcome in Karnataka as a "warning bell" for the party and has said the reasons for the poor performance of the Congress will be looked into.

"It is a fact that we were expecting some 15 seats in the State. A defeat is a defeat and we have to accept it. We will convene a meeting to discuss and review the reasons for the loss. We have to find out why this happened and where did we go wrong," he told reporters here.

Mr. Shivakumar said that AICC general secretary (in charge of Karnataka) Randeep Singh Surjewala and party leader Rahul Gandhi wanted the performance [of the party in the polls] to be reviewed.

Urging partymen not to speak to the media on the poll debacle, Mr. Shivakumar said that the party had seen setbacks on the home turfs of leaders themselves.

"This has happened in my constituency too. We need to understand what went wrong. We have to set things right, and the result is a warning bell for us. Whoever had responsibility for a particular area will have to answer and they have to find out from party workers as to what went wrong."

Caught off guard

A woman on a two-wheeler protects a child when it rained on Mysuru road, in Bengaluru on Monday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

'Judges of High Court not Mughals of a bygone era'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

"We are judges and therefore, cannot act like Mughals of a bygone era ... the writ courts in the guise of doing justice cannot transcend the barriers of law," the High Court observed while setting aside an order of a single judge, who in 2016 had extended the lease of a public premises allotted to a physically challenged person to 20 years contrary to 12-year period stipulated in the law.

"Obviously, they [judges of HC] cannot arrogate to themselves the extraordinary power vested in the apex court of the country under Article 142 of the Constitution. After all, we are judges and therefore, cannot act like Mughals of a bygone era. More is not necessary to specify," observed a Division Bench, comprising Justice Krishna S. Dixit and Justice Ramachandra D. Huddar.

Pointing out that an allottee of a public premises, as per notifications issued under Section 72(2) of the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964 annot claim that the tenure of allotment should be longer than beyond 12 years, the Bench said: "The learned single judge could not have lightly construed such an instrument of law to the prejudice of public interest and conversely to the advantage of a private citizen.

One Siddaramu of Channapatna had secured lease of a shop in a municipal shopping complex, owned by Channapatna City Municipal Council in Ramanagara district, after several rounds of litigation, He, in 2015, filed a petition questioning restricting of lease period of the shop for only 12 years instead of 20 years as was done in some other shops. The single judge had directed the CMC to extend the lease to 20 years and the CMC had filed appeal before the Bench.

"A lease being a matter of contract, courts cannot rewrite the same, in the absence of statutory enablement, kind of which avail in labour legislations," the Bench said, while observing that the courts could not go beyond the lease period fixed in the statutory notification. If a lease was granted to others for a tenure not legally permissible that could not be a ground for claiming parity in treatment, the Bench said.

Satish Jarkiholi's remark brings issue of Belagavi district division to the fore again

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The long-debated issue of Belagavi district division has come to the fore again, with Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi hinting that the government is seriously considering it.

At a recent press conference, he said it was time Belagavi was divided into Belagavi, Chikkodi, and Gokak districts.

He pointed out that the present Belagavi district was too big and difficult to administer. To buttress his argument, Mr. Jarkiholi said the whole of Udupi district had a population of nine lakh, while Belagavi taluk alone had nine lakh people; therefore, it needed to be divided into a minimum of three districts.

The Minister had made a similar remark during his Independence Day speech last year.

Sanjiv Badiger , president of the Chikkodi separate district agitation committee, has welcomed the decision. "We have been agitating for it for over 50 years. We will be relieved if the government takes it [proposal] up," he said.

Belagavi district accounts for 18 Assembly seats spread over 14 taluks. FILE PHOTO

Belagavi district has a population of over 54 lakh as per the last census. It accounts for 18 Assembly seats spread over 14 taluks. The district has over 1,500 villages/ hamlets grouped into 506 gram panchayats. After delimitation of taluks, the average number of taluks in each district in the State is seven as against 14 in Belagavi.

Kannada organisations are opposing the division idea, saying it will not further Karnataka's interests

A retired IAS officer who served as Regional Commissioner, Belagavi, said the division of the district was highly advisable, for administrative convenience.

"It will help the people by increasing the number of all-India service officers posted here, other district level officers, and the opening of several district-level offices of various departments. It will also give a push to rural development, as smaller districts offer officers a chance to closely monitor the progress of various schemes," he said.

The issue, however, is contentious for two reasons, mainly. Kannada organisations are opposing it, saying it could consolidate Marathi-speaking villages in one smaller district and support the claim of parties such as Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti that such areas should be merged with the neighbouring State. The second is the disagreement between some legislators and other leaders about locating the district headquarters in a town like Gokak, which is seen as a pocket borough of the politically powerful Jarkiholi brothers.

Some leaders from Bailhongal do not want to be part of a probable Gokak district. They want their own Bailhongal district. "This town has been the seat of the sub-divisional magistrate since the British times. We deserve to have our own district," said Shivarangan Bolannanavar, president of the Bailhongal district agitation committee.

The committee members have warned of an agitation if a Bailhongal district is not formed. They claim the support of Mahantesh Koujalagi, Congress MLA for Bailhongal. There have been similar, but feeble demands from leaders in Athani, Ramdurg, and Raibag taluks.

Ashok Chandaragi, convener of Kannada organisations in the district, said the committee had asked the government to keep the issue on the back burner till the border dispute with Maharashtra was sorted out.

"We have seen similar proposals in the past. They were all withdrawn after protests by Kannada organisations. The decision of the then Chief Minister J.H. Patel to carve out Chikkodi district in 1997 was resisted and it was later dropped.

Another proposal in 2007 was also given up. In 2020, however, the State government did not consider the cause of Belagavi when Vijayanagara was formed," he said.

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ
ಟಿ. ಚೌಡಯ್ಯ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಕುಮಾರ ಪಾರ್ಕ್ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು – 560020.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಬೆಂಅಪ್ರಾ/ಆ/ಸಿ.ವಿ./182/ಉ.ಕಾ–1/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10–06–2024

ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ವಿಷಯ: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೀಘ್ರಲಿಪಿಗಾರ–1 ಮತ್ತು ಬೆರಳಚ್ಚುಗಾರ–1 ಬ್ಯಾಕ್‌ಲಾಗ್ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ನೇರ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಯಿಂದ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.

ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ: ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಪ್ರಕಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಬೆಂಅಪ್ರಾ/ಆ/ಸಿ.ವಿ./663/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07–11–2023.

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿನ ಶೀಘ್ರಲಿಪಿಗಾರ–01 ಮತ್ತು ಬೆರಳಚ್ಚುಗಾರ–01 ಬ್ಯಾಕ್‌ಲಾಗ್ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ನೇರ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಯಿಂದ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿತ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಂತೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾಗಿರುವ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಅರ್ಹತಾ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದಿರುವ ಶೇಕಡವಾರು ಅಂಕಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿ ಮೆರಿಟ್ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ **07 ದಿನಗಳ** ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಲಿಖಿತ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಶೀಘ್ರಲಿಪಿಗಾರರ ಹುದ್ದೆ:

ಮುಖ್ಯ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿ (ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ)

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯ ಹೆಸರು ಶ್ರೀ/ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ	ಜನ್ಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ	ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆಗನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯ ಅಂಕಗಳ ಶೇಕಡವಾರು ಸರಾಸರಿ
1	ಸುನೀತ. ಎನ್	11–01–1990	ಪ.ಪಂ	79.300

ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿ (ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ)

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯ ಹೆಸರು ಶ್ರೀ/ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ	ಜನ್ಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ	ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆಗನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯ ಅಂಕಗಳ ಶೇಕಡವಾರು ಸರಾಸರಿ
1	ರಜನಿ. ಎ	13–07–1990	ಪ.ಪಂ	77.934

ಬೆರಳಚ್ಚುಗಾರರ ಹುದ್ದೆ:

ಮುಖ್ಯ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿ (ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ)

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯ ಹೆಸರು ಶ್ರೀ/ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ	ಜನ್ಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ	ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆಗನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯ ಅಂಕಗಳ ಶೇಕಡವಾರು ಸರಾಸರಿ
1	ಸುನೀತ. ಎನ್	11–01–1990	ಪ.ಪಂ	82.611

ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಪಟ್ಟಿ (ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ)

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯ ಹೆಸರು ಶ್ರೀ/ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ	ಜನ್ಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಪ್ರವರ್ಗ	ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆಗನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಯ ಅಂಕಗಳ ಶೇಕಡವಾರು ಸರಾಸರಿ
1	ಜಾನಕಿ.ಕೆ.	05–05–1984	ಪ.ಪಂ	79.389

ಸಹಿ/– ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

Corporate inclusivity for the LGBTQ+ community: A look beyond Pride Month

How inclusive is the corporate world for people from the LGBTQ+ community? A recent conclave discussed on the 'rainbow ceiling,' a barrier to the growth of queer individuals in the corporate sector

Aryan Bhatt
Abhilekh Baruah
BENGALURU

A member and supporter of the LGBTQ+ community holds a rainbow flag during a Pride Parade in Chennai on June 1. AFP

Prarthana Prasad is a social media influencer, entrepreneur and a leading voice from the LGBTQ+ community. At a recent Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I) Conclave held in Bengaluru she opened up about how she is often a "token ticket" for the corporate world, increasingly contacted by brands for promotion during Pride Month.

Ashish Chopra, co-founder of BeUnic, a queer-owned, community-driven platform for LGBTQ+ creators and entrepreneurs, also spoke to *The Hindu*, noting that while business peaks during Pride Month, it dips immediately after.

Prasad and Chopra are not isolated cases. Many entrepreneurs who participated in the conclave attest to this and point out that their businesses experience a boom only during Pride Month when inclusion becomes a priority.

As another Pride Month rolls around, the corporate world is reminded once again of the need for inclusivity. However, the question remains: how inclusive is the working environment for people from the LGBTQ+ community, and does this inclusivity extend beyond Pride Month?

The 'Rainbow Ceiling' in corporate growth

At the Conclave organised by BeUnic on May 30, discussions centered around the "rainbow ceiling," a barrier to the growth of queer individuals in the corporate sector.

Delivering the keynote address, U.S. Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti emphasized the importance and complexity of managing diversity in large democracies like India and the U.S.A. He cited a McKinsey & Company report indicating that a diverse workforce is 35% more likely to achieve higher financial returns and 1.7 times more likely to be innovative.

However, a study by the Kerala Development Society, on behalf of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), further reveals that 92% of transgender individuals are deprived of the right to participate in any form of economic activity. Additionally, 96% are forced into low-paying work, and only 2% live with their parents.

Lack of queer representation in leadership

Aditya Batavia, a Diversity, Equity & Inclusivity leader with 12+ years of experience and a panelist at the conclave, identified four types of leaders regarding queer inclusion: those against it, those indifferent to it, those empathetic but uninformed, and those advocating for positive change.

"Transgender people are often only provided with security and housekeeping jobs, regardless of their qualifications," Batavia said, expressing concern about the lack of queer representation in leadership roles.

Panellists Prarthna Prasad, Jaydeep Sarkar, and Mujeer Pasha discussing queer representation in the Indian media and entertainment industry.

According to a 2022 report by Out Leadership, a global LGBTQ+ platform, of the 5,670 board seats in the Fortune 500, only 25 (0.4%) are held by out LGBTQ+ individuals, with some seats held by the same persons.

Globally, only five Fortune 500 companies have LGBTQ+ policies within their proxy statements. Leadership positions remain largely inaccessible to queer individuals, and the workspaces present additional challenges in terms of inclusion.

Queer experiences

Tarun (name changed), a non-binary entrepreneur, describes their struggles in expressing their sexuality in the corporate sector. "I always had to present myself as a masculine person to be taken seriously."

Sandeepta Das, Graphic & Visual Design Analyst at Accenture Operations, expresses how as an out and proud trans individual, she has experienced first-hand the difference an inclusive workplace can make to the lives of LGBTQIA+ individuals. "I have benefited from Accenture's inclusive medical insurance plans. They covered all aspects of my transition-related health care. Being authentic is not always easy, but it is important to lead with positive examples", added Das.

Rutesh Rajani, an AI engineer, spoke to *The Hindu* and highlighted the disparity between the experiences of cisgender and visibly queer individuals in the workplace. "For the first 8-10 years of my career, I hid my sexuality in professional life because I found it safer. By the time I came out, I was in a position in my career where I would be taken seriously despite my sexuality."

However, he acknowledges that not every queer individual has this choice.

Ashish Chopra of BeUnic highlighted the struggles of queer applicants, explaining that "many organizations still hire queer individuals only at the bottom levels." He noted that low pay in certain corporate jobs sometimes forces trans people to leave because they earn as much as sex workers at traffic signals.

Chopra also emphasized that for the first 20 years of his life, he was just "pretending to be someone else," which he feels reduces the confidence of queer individuals in the workplace. "Straight people already have an upper hand. They don't have to go through all the struggle in terms of their sexual preference."

Inclusivity efforts in corporate India

Within the Indian corporate world, the attitude among leaders toward inclusivity vary drastically, ranging from the dismissive stance of Ola CEO Bhavish Aggarwal who criticized gender pronouns as an "illness" from the West, to the inclusive approach of Keshav Suri, Executive Director at The Lalit Suri Hospitality Group, humorously remarked that their company "accepts heterosexuals too."

Sindhu Gangadharan, MD, SAP Labs India explains how in the journey towards true inclusion one must be vigilant against unconscious biases in hiring and promotion processes and create a culture where everyone feels empowered to speak up and contribute.

Reflecting on the inclusive practices beyond just the pride month celebration, she says, "Pride@SAP, our first Employee Network Group (ENG) has now grown into a family of over 8000 LGBTQIA+ members and allies across various locations and helped in fostering a welcoming workplace".

While companies like Tech Mahindra which extends insurance benefits for the same sex partners of its employees have showcased inclusive policy changes, Ritushree Panigrahi (Bengaluru), a transwoman working in the corporate sector, points out the story is no the same across the industry.

"Most corporations conduct DE&I workshops only for promotional purposes, and the actual groundwork for fostering well-being and career advancement is missing."

Progress in Karnataka

In a landmark move in July 2021, Karnataka became the first state in India to reserve jobs in public employment for transgender persons through 1% horizontal reservation. Horizontal reservations allow for reservations based on multiple identities, such as transgender status, enabling a more inclusive approach.

However, Panigrahi points out that although there are policies, often there is no groundwork for their implementation. She also stresses the need to employ queer individuals in positions where they can influence policy changes after the basic groundwork has been laid by the company.

Nisha Gulur, Project Director at Sangama while speaking to *The Hindu* in an interview also added that "we are demanding the Karnataka government to provide coaching and technical skills for those who are going to apply for the government jobs." This is crucial for the welfare of many trans individuals who drop out of schools due to bullying and have no access to formal job-related training.

Discussions at the Bengaluru conclave also emphasized initiatives like "family days," encouraging employees to bring their partners and family members to work to foster acceptance through exposure.

While efforts like the Trans Employment Mela and DE&I conclaves indicate progress, there is a long way to go in making corporate India genuinely inclusive for the LGBTQ+ community. The members of the community unanimously point out that superficial initiatives during Pride Month must evolve into sustained efforts throughout the year, focusing on education, sensitisation, and the implementation of inclusive policies.

16th edition of Bhoomi Habba, a celebration of eco conciousness

The festival drew a vibrant crowd who came together to participate in a variety of engaging activities, creative workshops, and exhibits

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Stills from the event. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The 16th edition of Bhoomi Habba was held on June 8, at the Visthar campus. The festival drew a vibrant crowd who came together to celebrate eco-consciousness through a variety of engaging activities, creative workshops, panel discussions, interactive exhibits and performances, all centered around this year's theme: "Save Water, Save Lives."

Exhibitions

The event featured different types of workshops and exhibitions, some of which were Noor Fatima's session on medicinal plants and Antara Mukherjee's innovative "Trash to Toys" upcycling workshop. The event also featured a poetry session with Neha Ann, and exhibitions on environmental themes including Akhil Jacob's "Time Triangle Tales" and Fahad's "Water Journeys" photo story. Anjali's "Unravelling Animism" showcased the interplay of natural elements through art.

Live paintings

Visitors enjoyed live painting by artists from Art Mantram and participated in community painting workshops led by Priscilla, where they created beautiful folk florals and fish illustrations on wooden coasters. Traditional games, Warli painting with Akshaya, and recycled papermaking with Srujana Recycling Unit were also big hits.

Film screenings

The event also witnessed captivating indigenous instrument music, a powerful theatre piece by Vishtar Ranga Shale, folk dance, panel discussions and film screenings that facilitated crucial conversations on climate change and water conservation. David Selvaraj's "Spacewalk" provided attendees with a unique tour of Visthar's sustainable architecture and artistic spaces. The "Treevellers Katte" session by Charumathi Supraja offered a space for tree stories and multi-art activities, fostering a deeper connection with nature.

The festival was inaugurated by Dr. Jija Harisingh, Managing Trustee of Art Mantram and former Director General of Police, Government of Karnataka, who emphasized the importance of community-driven sustainability efforts.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 11, 1974

New Mangalore Harbour Opened for Traffic

Mangalore, June 10: The new all-weather port of Mangalore was opened for traffic in the early hours of to-day when the Japanese cargo ship. M.S. Satsu Maru 27", entered the harbour.

Mr. K.H. Panditharadhya, Chief Engineer and Administrator of the harbour, welcomed Captain Hashi Thani and congratulated him on the unique distinction of captaining the first steamer to berth alongside the shallow whari after Mangalore was declared a Custom port by the Union Govt. He said that despite several hurdles the harbour had been made ready according to schedule, and Rs. 23 crores had been spent so far on the Rs. 32-crore project.

Dress Allowance for Karnataka Police Officers

Bangalore, June 10: The Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors in the Karnataka police force are to get a dress allowance of Rs. 100 a year.

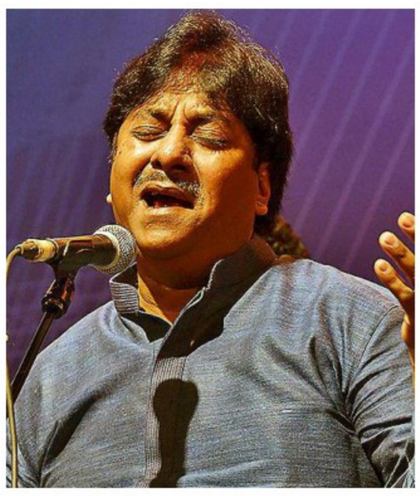
The Government's decision to grant dress allowance will benefit 296 Inspectors and 1,050 Sub-Inspectors. The allowance will be given with retrospective effect from April 1, 1974.

The Government has also revived the uniform allowance to Assistant Inspectors of Police, Head Constables and Constables.

Monsoon ragas in memoriam

A tribute to Ustad Rashid Khan titled Barsega Sawan will take place at Chowdiah Memorial Hall on June 14

Ranjani Govind



Many moods, many melodies Ustad Rashid Khan receiving the KK Murthy Chowdiah Memorial award, Vaishali Srinivas and Iman Das (left). THE HINDU / SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In January this year, Hindustani semi-classical singer Rekha Surya, youngest disciple of Begum Akhtar, while paying tribute to Rashid Khan recollected her two-year stint at the Sangeet Research Academy (SRA), where they were batchmates, scholarship holders and budding artistes. "Even as a student, Rashid was considered a maestro by senior gurus at SRA. 'Who are we to assess him, Rashid is our equal, not lesser than us,' they had once commented in their weekly assessment," Rekha recalls.

Samarthanam Trust for the disabled in association with the Academy of Music, Chowdiah Memorial Hall will be paying a musical tribute, Barsega Saawan, on June 14 in memory of Ustad Rashid Khan whose sudden passing at the age of 55, left the world of Indian classical music shocked. A panel discussion on Rashid Khan's melodies would be followed by a *jugalbandi* by musicians Suma Sudhindra and Ustad Shafique Khan on the veena and sitar while vocalists Iman Das and Vaishali Srinivas will present the late Hindustani master's favourite monsoon *ragas*.

Ustad Rashid Khan, was the great grandson of Enayat Hussain Khan, founder of the Rampur-Sehaswan Gharana. Rashid was born in Uttar Pradesh's Badaun but came to Kolkata with his family in 1980, when he was around 10 years old.

Hindustani vocalist and founder of Omkar Music Academy, Iman Das, who had closely interacted with Rashid Khan over the years and is part of the Barsega Sawan tribute concert, says, "Be it his solo or duets with stalwarts such as Pt. Bhimsen Joshi or his stylistic presentation of *thumri, ghazal* and *bhajan*, Rashid Khan fashioned them straight from his heart. He was an accomplished vocalist and his *gayaki* was a mixture of Ustad Amir Khan, Pt. Bhimsen Joshi and Hussain Khan."

"Apart from his innate Rampur-Sehaswan Gharana style, he blended in the Kirana Gharana as well. His fluid *taans*, serene *aalaps* and enterprising spirit to sing in films shows he lacked for nothing in music. The song, '*Aaoge Jab Tum Saajana*' from *Jab We Met*, became a super hit with his voice."

Heart-felt rendition

The time of year for the tribute concert is well thought out. "Rashid's penchant for monsoon ragas is well known and *Raag Desh* was particularly close to his heart," Iman says. "That is why we picked the title Barsega Sawan for this programme. Music composer Sandesh Shandilya is still grateful the maestro agreed to sing the number."

Elaborating on monsoon scales, Iman described the plurality and subtle variations in the *Malhar Ragas* and said these scales were known to be brimming with metaphors for different emotions. "The programme will also include *kajri*, the lighter form of *tumri*, said to be part of the rainfall offering. The inaugural song by Anusha Manjunath of Samarthanam, a student of mine, will feature a *bandish* made popular by Rashid. Anusha will also be singing at the Para-Olympics in Paris this September."

Writer, columnist and singer Vaishali Srinivas as Joint Secretary of the Academy of Music Chowdiah Memorial Hall says, Rashid Khan's music has long been part of her regular playlist. "I would like to describe the programme as a requiem for the maestro. The untimely demise of one of the legends of Hindustani *khayal* music has been a colossal loss. Almost all practitioners of Indian classical music have been deeply influenced by Rashid's unparalleled *gayaki* and the lyricism of his *khayals* will perennially haunt me."

Vaishali had the privilege of interacting with Rashid when he became the recipient of the KK Murthy Chowdiah National Award at the Academy's annual music festival a few years ago. "While I was in conversation with Rashid, I was enthralled by his simplicity and affability. When he found out I was a Hindustani classical vocalist, he remarked, "*Arre! Aap bhi mujhe logon ka farmayish ke bare me kuch sujhav de sakte the*!" (You too could inform me of people's requests in music). I was stunned by his modesty and geniality," says Vaishali.

She goes on to add, "After that on a few occasions, I have covered Rashid's concerts as a freelance music columnist and have enjoyed many a memorable conversation with him. We discussed how one can unfold the *raag bhaav*, the radiant emotional insights that can be slipped in, the sensitive treatment of *bandishes* – those talks left an indelible imprint on my psyche."

Vaishali says she was itching to organise a musical tribute to Rashid. "With the support of Mahantesh of Smarthanam and Iman Das, we were able to conceptualise Barsega Sawan."

Other artistes performing at the event include Pandit Rajendra Nakod on the tabla, Surya Upadhay on the harmonium, mridangist BC Manjunath and SN Narayana Murthy on the *ghata*, with support from the Brigade Foundation.

Barsega Sawan, a tribute to Rashid Khan will take place at Chowdiah Memorial Hall on June 14, from 5.30 to 9.30pm. Entry free

Of myths, legends and magic

Parvati Nair

Sitting across debutant author Shabbeer Ahmed at one of the many coffee shops found in Bengaluru, and immersed in an effortless conversation, it is easy to understand how the pages of his book follow a similar free-flowing manner.

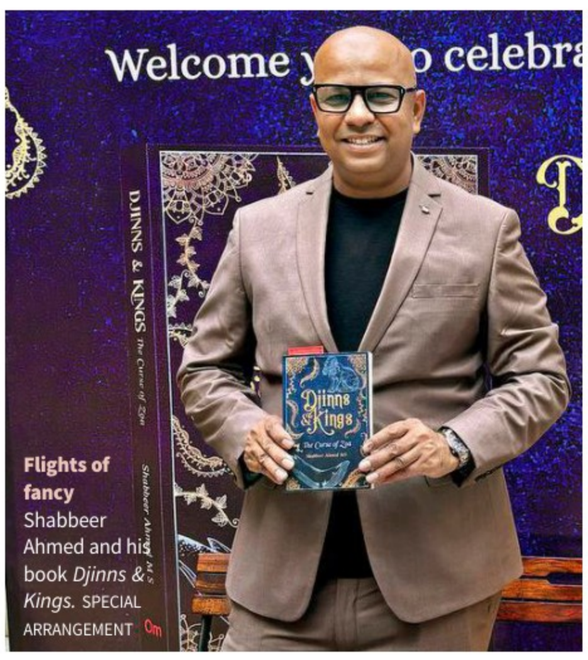
Shabbeer, whose diverse career has taken him through the corridors of engineering, radio jockeying, game designing, and now, writing, exudes a palpable passion for storytelling. As he talks about his writing journey, one can sense his fascination for words.

"I used to read a lot as a child, and writing is something that I've always wanted to do," says Shabbeer. It is from this well of literary inspiration that he draws his creative energies, weaving together aspects of Eastern mysticism and Western fantasy in his debut novel, *Djinns and Kings* (Om Books International).

Inspired by *The Arabian Nights* and J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, Shabbeer set out to craft his tale. "I always wanted to write something that involved travel, an amalgamation of magical elements, and I finally put pen to paper."

Shabbeer believes fiction is a superpower that humans possess. "The ability to write fiction distinguishes us from animals around us," he says, his face lighting up as he discusses Tolkien as well as the works of Sufi and Persian writers that find a reflection in his book.

"Ferdowsi is a wonderful writer and his *Tale of Rostam* holds special place in my heart. The *Iliad, Odyssey, Ramayana* and *Mahabharata* are brilliant mythical works that leave an imprint on you.



Flights of fancy Shabbeer Ahmed and his book *Djinns & Kings*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Djinns and Kings is populated by djinns (naturally), perilous journeys and thrilling adventures. "It is easy to write about something or someone that you already know. When you create something new, however, you don't know where you're going with it. So it's both a challenge and a pleasure."

Shabbeer has written four extra chapters in *Djinns and Kings* that have not been published. "It was incredible fun to write them."

Imagining something fresh is a myth, Shabbeer says. "If you were to imagine a creature not of this earth, how would it look? You could say, it has got tentacles like an octopus, but then the octopus already exists. So, it is a result of the exposure that you've had."

Djinns and Kings is set in the magical city of Afra Zun, and focuses on celebrating one's differences. Shabbeer believes that integration and not ghettoizing of communities, will help people understand each other and allow for a harmonious coexistence.

Shabbeer's book, is about love – love of people, land, riches and religion. "We talk about how love is great, however, we do not talk about the crimes being committed in the name of love. People go to war with another country, professing love for their own, and hatred for the other."

The novel explores the notion of heroism. "Once a heroic deed is done, a hero becomes a pain. A mongoose is a hero when it fights the snake. After it has killed the snake, however, it is nothing but a rodent."

As someone who has dabbled in various careers, Shabbeer believes it is essential for one to be multifaceted. A qualified mechanical engineer, he was the first voice of FM Rainbow in Bengaluru and has two game design patents to his name.

He believes being involved in parallel fields at the same time fosters innovation and creativity.

Let's talk business

Once synonymous with immense wealth, the Vanderbilt family's vast empire, built on steamboats and railroads, serves as a cautionary tale of squandered fortunes. Their downfall exemplifies the consequences of failing to embrace and adapt to change, a theme explored by authors R Gopalakrishnan and Hrishi Bhattacharyya in their new book, *Embrace the Future*.

The book delves into the dynamics of business transformation, emphasising the importance of balancing the emotional and rational aspects of change.

Gopalakrishnan and Bhattacharyya argue that a compelling narrative inspiring the entire organisation is crucial for successful transformation. They stress that transformation should be a continuous process embedded in the company's culture, rather than a one-off reaction to crises.

Embrace the Future resonates with those navigating today's rapidly evolving business landscape. The authors highlight the necessity for companies to learn from the past, adapt in the present, and prepare for the future.

R Gopalakrishnan, with his extensive experience in the Unilever Group and Tata Sons, and Hrishi Bhattacharyya, a former senior vice president at Unilever and a seasoned management consultant, bring valuable perspectives to the discussion.

The authors will be joined by Viju Parameshwar, a retired corporate leader with a rich background in senior leadership roles across various industries.

The event will feature a Q&A session with the audience. It is free and open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis, with RSVP required. For more information, visit bangaloreinternationalcentre.org.

On June 11, from 6.30pm at the Bangalore International Centre.

CITYBEATS

Melodic fusion

ON JUNE 14 AND 15
Jazz pianist Massimo Faraò, accompanied by vocalist Claudia Zannoni, is set to entertain Bengaluru. Faraò, celebrated for his dynamic style drawing from jazz legends, promises a fusion of traditional jazz and Italian melodies. They will be joined by Davide Palladin on the guitar and Nicola Barbon on double bass.
At Windmills, Whitefiled. Tickets available at windmills-india.com.

Identity and art

JUNE 16
Celebrate Pride Month with a 'sip and paint' session by Fizapreet Dhillon. This inclusive event welcomes all, providing a safe space to explore identity and creativity. No artistic experience needed. Enjoy complimentary coffee, all art supplies, and guided prompts on queerness and identity.
At Atta Galatta. For more details and tickets, visit BookMyShow.

Game on

TILL JUNE 29
Attention, cricket enthusiasts and pizza lovers! Nomad Pizza offers unlimited craft beers and live T20 World Cup screenings for ₹1299. Pizza options include their renowned Chicago-style deep-dish pizza, Naple's pizza, and more. Apart from beers and pizzas, also enjoy pastas, wings and more.
At Nomad Pizza, Indiranagar and Sarjapur. Contact 9632245831.

Amaravati capital works to start after new govt. takes oath

Sambasiva Rao M.
GUNTUR

As Telugu Desam Party (TDP) national president N. Chandrababu Naidu prepares to take oath as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for a record fourth time, ground is being laid for the resumption of works on the capital city of Amaravati after a gap of five years.

The works on the greenfield capital city were launched with much fanfare in October 2015 after Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone. However, the works were abruptly halted in 2019 by Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy after he became Chief Minister by unseating Mr. Naidu.

Now, the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) is again reviewing the status of the works and has commenced some projects even before the swearing-in ceremony of Mr. Naidu, which is on June 12.

APCRDA Commissioner Vivek Yadav told *The Hindu*, "Senior officials are reviewing the status of the works in the capital city. We have started clearing the bushes and shrubs at all the important buildings such as the Secretariat, High Court, Seed Access Road and under-construction buildings such as residential quarters for Ministers, judges, MLAs and MLCs. Street-lighting in the villages is also being taken up."

Mr. Yadav said the contractors are also willing to resume works.

An under-construction bridge in Amaravati. Work of the bridge was halted in 2019 . G.N. RAO

After the swearing-in ceremony, there will be a meeting by the Chief Minister, after which the CRDA will get proper directions, Mr. Yadav said.

Contractors on board

Meanwhile, some major contractors engaged in the CRDA infrastructure works such as Larsen & Toubro, Navayuga and NCC are in coordination with government authorities, with CRDA officials informing them that they will hold meetings with all the contractors before resumption of the works.

In fact, the APCRDA is supposed to clear the dues of these contractors for the works done until now. Moreover, the contractors had also mobilised construction material for their projects and the APCRDA should clear the bills for that too, said developers.

Officials of APCRDA and the contractors have observed that there has been a steep escalation in prices from the tender prices of five or six years ago.

Ramalinga Reddy reaffirms continuation of Shakti scheme

Assurance comes after rumours on social media and calls from within Cong. to review guarantees

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy asserted that the Shakti scheme, offering free travel in non-luxury government buses to women in the State, will continue.

His clarification comes following some rumours being spread on social media that the scheme will be stopped as the Lok Sabha elections are over.

Apart from this, Congress leader M. Lakshman, who lost the Lok Sabha election in Mysuru-Kodagu Lok Sabha constituency, had urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to review implementation of guarantee schemes in the State. Mr. Lakshman had said that the mandate from the people in the Lok Sabha elections was against continuation of guarantee schemes.

People boarding a KSRTC bus at Kukke Subrahmanya in Dakshina Kannada district. FILE PHOTO

"The guarantee schemes should be reviewed and restricted only to the needy and poor people in Karnataka," he had said.

In response, Mr. Reddy said, "The guarantee schemes of our government were not launched to garner votes. We will not discontinue the Shakti scheme. People are suffering due to the price hikes by the Central government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Our guarantee schemes were launched to help the people, especially the poor and middle class."

Mr. Reddy told *The Hindu* that the Shakti scheme is one of the most successful initiatives in Karnataka, benefiting lakhs of women across the State.

"Mr. Siddaramaiah has allocated ₹5,500 crore in the budget for the Shakti scheme. It will continue as long as our Congress government is in power," he added.

The Congress announced the Shakti scheme in its manifesto for the 2023 Karnataka Assembly elections as part of five guarantees.

Suresh Gopi to continue as Minister

G. Anand
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Union Minister of State and BJP MP Suresh Gopi has confirmed that he will continue in the Union Ministry, ending two days of political uncertainty that put his party on tenterhooks.

Mr. Gopi seemingly flip-flopped on his earlier assertion that the BJP's national leadership will relieve him of his ministerial responsibility and permit him to honour his cinema commitments.

On Monday afternoon, hours after top BJP leaders from Kerala, including P.K. Krishnadas and M.T. Ramesh, called on him in New Delhi.

Suresh Gopi

Mr. Gopi sought to stop the political rumour mill by denying the "incorrect news" that he will resign from the Modi government.

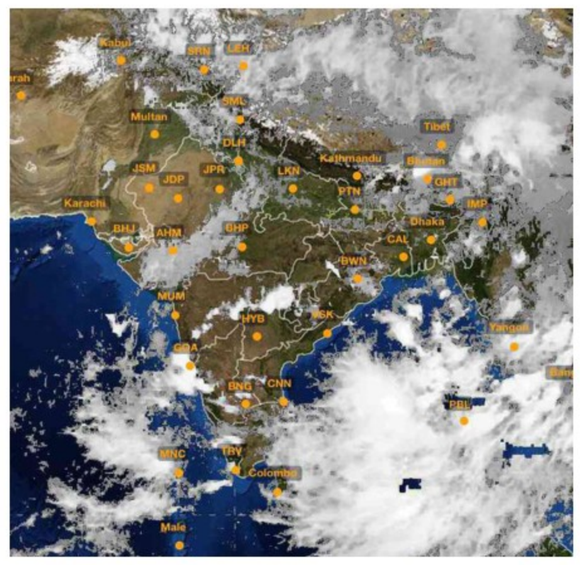
His statement came seemed to be the final curtains down on the political theatre that riveted public attention for two consecutive days.

Mr. Gopi had defied political pundits and stunned the ruling and Opposition fronts by breaking new ground of great political importance for the BJP in South India by winning the Thrissur Lok Sabha constituency in Kerala against heavy odds.

The BJP had campaigned in Thrissur that it saw a future Cabinet Minister in Mr. Gopi.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Telangana, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe. Heat wave conditions likely to prevail in isolated pockets of Jammu & Kashmir, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttarakhand and Odisha

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	7	30.6	25.1	Kozhikode	30	30.5	24.4
Ahmedabad	1	40.5	28.5	Kurnool	2	31.8	25.8
Aizawl	24	31.8	23.1	Lucknow	—	43.8	26.2
Allahabad	—	46.3	30.6	Madurai	—	38.6	25.6
Bengaluru	3.2	27.1	21.2	Mangaluru	25.8	27.4	23.0
Bhopal	0.2	39.3	25.8	Mumbai	69	31.0	24.2
Bhubaneswar	—	39.2	28.0	Mysuru	—	30.0	—
Chandigarh	—	42.9	25.7	New Delhi	—	43.4	28.6
Chennai	—	38.0	28.7	Patna	—	41.7	29.5
Coimbatore	—	33.0	23.6	Port Blair	38.9	28.7	23.6
Dehradun	—	41.1	23.6	Puducherry	—	37.4	27.3
Gangtok	34	22.5	18.6	Pune	12.6	31.3	21.6
Goa	94	30.6	24.8	Raipur	13	40.6	26.6
Guwahati	4	35.0	26.4	Ranchi	—	40.0	28.8
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	—	24.5	17.9
Hyderabad	—	34.0	24.6	Shimla	—	32.3	21.4
Imphal	—	32.3	16.5	Srinagar	—	29.5	12.0
Jaipur	—	43.2	30.2	Thiruvananthapuram	20	31.7	25.3
Kochi	7.4	31.0	25.8	Tiruchi	—	36.7	26.8
Kohima	—	26.6	17.9	Vijayawada	—	34.6	27.4
Kolkata	—	38.5	29.8	Visakhapatnam	—	33.6	28.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	105	40	53	70	115	
Bengaluru	15	22	78	39	50	
Chennai	29	23	107	34	34	
Delhi	28	54	71	296	281	
Hyderabad	8	163	30	40	—	
Kolkata	4	16	22	67	62	
Lucknow	12	31	26	157	139	
Mumbai	8	33	35	21	88	
Pune	3	30	17	38	68	
Visakhapatnam	10	41	19	41	88	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Dhanbad, Jharkhand recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 351 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 15

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Swami of Mutt found murdered

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The seer of Annadaneshwara Mutt Shivananda Swami was found murdered in the Mutt premises situated on Bannur Road in Siddharthanagar in the city on Monday.

Soon after receiving information about the murder, the Nazarbad police rushed to the spot and found the swami, who is believed to be around 90 years, hacked to death. A sickle used for cutting grass had been used to murder the elderly swami brutally.

After conducting a *mahazar* and preliminary investigation, the police registered a case and shifted the body to mortuary for a post mortem.

Monsoon ready

Racing against time: A farmer getting his field ready for kharif sowing in Nalgonda district of Telangana. NAGARA GOPAL

Liver transplantation performed on infant

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The six-month-old baby had been suffering from jaundice since birth and its condition worsened

A six-month-old baby from Bhutan, suffering from biliary atresia, recently underwent liver transplant at a city hospital. She has since been discharged and is doing well now.

The baby's mother donated a portion of her liver. The baby had been suffering from jaundice since birth and her condition worsened.

She became bloated, dull and irritable and was brought to Gleneagles Health City, here, in a critical condition.

When the doctors explained the child's condition, the mother volunteered to donate, and the family sources organised funds through crowdfunding. The child was operated on March 8. "The mother and the baby were discharged in good health," said Joy Varghese, director of hepatology and transplant at the hospital.

One in 20,000 live births could have biliary atresia, a condition in which the bile ducts outside and inside the liver are blocked.

As bile cannot flow, it builds up in the liver and damages the organ. It eventually leads to liver failure. Children could start showing symptoms within a month or two of birth, said Somashekara HR, consultant paediatric hepatologist.

Mettu Srinivas Reddy, director, liver transplantation and HPB surgery, assisted the team that performed the eight-hour surgery.

Hospital chief executive officer Nagesh K. Rao congratulated the surgeons on their effort.

The baby's parents returned the extra funds that they received to other patients in Bhutan who were in need of money for treatment.

Doctor among five arrested for sale of newborn

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Belagavi police arrested five persons, including a doctor, on the charges of selling and buying an infant that was allegedly born to an unwed mother in Karnataka.

Mahadevi, alias Priyanka Bahubali Jain from Bailhongal, Abdulgafar Hussainsaab Ladkhan, a physician from Hanchinal village near Saundatti, Chandan Subedar from Shigihali village near Bailhongal, Pavitra Somappa Madiwalar from Sampagaon village near Bailhongal, and Praveen Manjunath Madiwalar from Dharwad were produced in a court that remanded them in judicial custody.

Acting on a complaint by Rajkumar Ningappa Rathod, the coordinator of the Government Adoption Centre of the District Child Protection cell, police investigated the sale of a month-old girl child.

They found out that Dr. Ladkhan had sold the child to Ms. Jain for ₹60,000. Subsequently, Ms. Jain making attempts to sell the child.

A team of officers went undercover and got in touch with her. They convinced her that they would buy the baby for ₹1.4 lakh. They arrested her when she arrived with the baby girl at a mutually agreed place in Belagavi.

The baby was admitted to the district hospital.

Further investigation led to the arrest of the other accused.

UDF disrupts Assembly over 'bar graft'

G. Anand
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A sense of *deja vu* dominated the Kerala Assembly proceedings on Monday.

In what seemed to be a blast from the past, the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) Opposition took a page from the Left Democratic Front's "bar bribery case" playbook and executed a pale parody of the pandemonium that unfolded during K.M. Mani's Budget presentation in the Assembly in 2014 by disrupting the day's proceedings in the House, though in a relatively muted faction.

Since the day of disruption that marked the 2014 Budget presentation, much water has flowed under the bridge.

Mani's KC(M) joined the LDF after his death and is now on the treasury benches. The political script seemed largely unchanged since 2014, except for a stark reversal of roles in the Assembly in 2024.

The Kerala Police use water cannons to disperse the Youth Congress workers during their protest against liquor policy. FILE PHOTO

Opposition legislators trooped into the House well with placards accusing the LDF of bar bribery. They mobbed Speaker A.N. Shamseer's podium, forcing him to rush through the proceedings and adjourn the House for the day.

Adjournment motion

Congress legislator Roji M. John, who moved an adjournment motion to debate the "latest bar bribery case", even echoed the words of V.S. Achuthanandan, the Leader of the LDF Opposition in 2014.

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan alleged that the Tourism department had overstepped its jurisdiction and held meetings with bar owners. He said the government offered bar owners the carrot of extending bar timings and reducing dry days in reciprocity for sizeable backhanders.

He said the leaked mobile phone voice note of an office-bearer of the bar hotel owners' association revealed that the liquor lobby had initiated a collection to bribe the government. Mr. Satheesan demanded a vigilance inquiry. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan replied the police would register a case if their preliminary inquiry into the episode revealed an offence.

CPI(M) sacrifices RS seat aspirations to ensure LDF unity

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

After two days of hectic parleys, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) on Monday walked the extra mile to ensure that the wrangle over the allocation of Rajya Sabha seats would not drive a wedge between allies in the ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF).

The CPI(M) closed ranks to defend common interests and maintain cohesion within the alliance by allocating the two seats available to the ruling front to the Communist Party of India and the Kerala Congress (M). The party sacrificed its aspirations for a Rajya Sabha seat at the altar of LDF unity.

The KC(M) has nominated its chairperson, Jose K. Mani, as its candidate. The CPI State executive is meeting to finalise its candidate. The lot was likely to fall on CPI leader P.P. Suneer.

'Long discussions'

LDF convener E.P. Jayarajan told the media that the ruling alliance had preempted long, drawn-out discussions on seat sharing that often spawned adverse political speculation.

He said that unlike the United Democratic Front, the LDF did not practice a top-down managerial philosophy.

For plurality

CSDS-Lokniti's post-poll survey showed exhaustion with Hindutva politics

A drop in satisfaction levels with governance, the stagnating popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the resilience of regional parties and the rejuvenation of the Congress party, and the fading of Hindutva for marginalised sections in the Hindi heartland. All these contributed to the National Democratic Alliance's reduced majority in the 2024 general election, according to the CSDS-Lokniti's post-poll survey. In its pre-poll survey, the agency had indicated that "unemployment" and "price rise" were key issues for a majority of the electorate and despite the healthy 46% support for the NDA, a chunk of those favouring the incumbents were willing to back the Opposition during the course of the election. The final vote share for the NDA, at 43.6%, was 1.4 points lower than what the constituents of this year's coalition received in 2019 even as the INDIA bloc secured a significant 41.4% support (if the Trinamool Congress's shares are included), a leap from 2019. In the previous Lok Sabha election, the Balakot action, the PM-Kisan scheme and 10% reservation for the Economically Weaker Sections category had helped the Bharatiya Janata Party romp home with 303 seats, according to Lokniti. But this time around, multiple narratives and political issues tied the party down in its strongholds. Even its ascendance in Odisha and Telangana was not enough to recoup its losses in the Hindi heartland.

The strong support by Dalits, other OBCs and minorities to the Congress in States such as Uttar Pradesh, and the Samajwadi Party's terming the BJP's agenda as a threat to the Constitution put the wind in the Opposition's sails. That Congress leader Rahul Gandhi enjoyed a four-point lead (36% versus 32%) over Mr. Modi among respondents in Uttar Pradesh, when asked about their preference for the Prime Minister's post, must alarm the BJP. Clearly, the party can no longer expect to rely on Hindutva as a cementing factor except in States such as Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, which are distinguished by a lack of a diligent Opposition. For the INDIA bloc, and the Congress in particular, its credible performance notwithstanding, its task is cut out in these States. The Congress also increased its vote share in Karnataka from what it was in the 2023 Assembly elections, but the NDA's strong social coalition proved a hindrance in converting those increased votes into more seats. The message for the Opposition is clear – wherever it is in power, it must strive to provide a clear alternative to the NDA in terms of governance. And where it is not in power, it must rely on building unity among like-minded forces and a narrative of bringing change through alternative policies that offer a strong contrast to the centralising and unitary nature of the BJP.

Master of three

Alcaraz has put himself at the head of the new generation in tennis

One of tennis' foremost challenges is in achieving multi-surface excellence. Grass, clay and the acrylic require varied skill sets, and while there are many jacks in the trade, there are very few masters. Carlos Alcaraz, with his maiden French Open title on Sunday, set himself on course towards joining an elite bunch of such greats. The clay-court Major was the 21-year-old's third, alongside US Open 2022 and Wimbledon 2023, and made him the youngest man in the Open Era (from 1968) to display such all-court mastery. The victory came at an important time for Alcaraz. Long considered the anointed heir to the famed trio of Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic, Alcaraz, in recent months, had not looked the part. Since winning Wimbledon, Indian Wells in March 2024 was his lone trophy, and the rise of Italian Jannik Sinner – Australian Open champion and the World No.1 – meant he had a generational rival to contend with. Lingering fitness issues, including the arm injury that limited his Roland-Garros tune-up to just one event, proved debilitating. But with a back-to-the-wall performance, including in the semifinal and final where he was down two sets to one against Sinner and a resurgent Alexander Zverev, Alcaraz chose one of the sport's grandest stages to showcase his true worth.

Iga Swiatek is yet to match the Spaniard's all-encompassing standards, but over the last two weeks, the 23-year-old showed that she was peerless on the red dirt. Saturday's win over the unheralded Italian Jasmine Paolini earned Swiatek her third straight French Open, fourth in Paris and a fifth Slam overall. Swiatek's dominance is best reflected in the fact that she has only ever entered six Roland-Garros singles main draws, has a 35-2 win-loss record and has lost just three sets in her four title-runs. Four-time Major champion Naomi Osaka did come within a point of ending Swiatek's stay in the second round, but the Pole displayed enormous mental fortitude to weather the storm and not let the doubts consume her. So good was her fortnight that she started drawing comparisons with the early years of Nadal. While Nadal's 14 titles may be insurmountable, Swiatek, like the 22-time Slam winner whom she idolises, can surely expand her success beyond clay. She is adept on the hard courts and has been the dominant World No.1 from April 2022, but for the eight weeks in late 2023 when Aryna Sabalenka reigned. The lack of success on grass – quarterfinals at Wimbledon 2023 being the best effort – has been Swiatek's bane and she has a golden opportunity to correct that in three weeks.

From warp speed to reset, the state of India-U.S. ties

Suhasini Haidar

This month marks a year since Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to the United States, where U.S. President Joseph Biden rolled out the red carpet and the U.S. offered to restart the decade-old plan to transfer technology for jet engines to India. The visit was marked by many such announcements of strategic and high-tech cooperation, with the U.S.-India initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) considered a major success for bilateral relations that would set the stage for a whole new phase in ties.

However, one year later, the pace of the relationship has not matched those ambitions for a number of external and internal reasons. As the newly sworn-in Indian Prime Minister will engage once again with the U.S. President this week at the G-7 outreach summit in Italy, and senior U.S. officials are set to arrive in Delhi, the "good, the not-so-good, and what could-become ugly" (to paraphrase the Hollywood western) in the relationship must be studied closely.

The crests

It is clear where the 'good' and even 'great' in the India-U.S. relationship lies. Last September marked 25 years of the turnaround in ties post-Pokhran, that was heralded by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's famous Asia Society speech in New York, on September 28, 1998, where he called India and the U.S. "natural allies in the quest for a better future" for the world in the 21st century. Since then, Delhi and Washington have built up strategic ties year on year, with dialogues in a growing number of spheres – from climate change and green energy to critical and emerging technologies and outer space.

Over the past decade, the growth is seen in strategic trust in particular, with the conclusion of all foundational agreements, a plethora of military exercises, growing inter-operability and coordination on maritime operations, not to mention the considerable purchases in the pipeline of military hardware. A broader mutual understanding has been sparked by many of the old irritants going away from relations: the de-hyphenation of U.S.-India ties with Pakistan, silence over old concerns on Jammu-Kashmir that once roiled ties, India's increased engagement with the Quad (India, Australia, Japan and the U.S.) and the U.S.'s Indo-Pacific strategy, and shared concerns over China's aggression have brought Delhi and DC increasingly on the "same page", internationally.

While the bilateral engagement has been thriving, much of it due to dozens of official-level conversations that continue, some of the "not-so-good" or work-in-progress areas lie in the areas of multilateral cooperation on global conflicts. Russia's war in Ukraine has been one major area of difference, especially as the U.S. has framed the war purely in terms of the international rule of law and humanitarian principles. India has chosen a more historical frame that also considers the disruption to other players like the Global South on issues such as food, fertilizer and energy security. There have been some compromises: the U.S. has withdrawn its objections to India's continued purchase of oil and other Russian exports and held off any talk of sanctions, while India has put over the annual India-Russia summit for two years now. It remains to be seen how the newly-elected Prime Minister manages engagements with Russian President Vladimir Putin in the next few months, with a possible meeting at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Kazakhstan in July and the BRICS Summit in Russia's Kazan in October. Some of the edge of the U.S.'s moralistic posture has also been taken off by its support of Israel's bombardment of Gaza and the continued killing of civilians despite calls from the United Nations, the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice to stop.

> A close look at the 'good, the not-so-good, and what could-become ugly' in the relationship

The China factor

On the other multilateral front and growing concerns over China's threats against Taiwan, with the latest conflagration over the Philippines in the South China Sea too, India-U.S. cooperation at the Quad has flagged somewhat. This has mainly been a factor of logistics. Mr. Biden's decision to decline the invitation for India's Republic Day in 2024 meant that the Quad Summit was foregone, and the U.S. has indicated that it will not be rescheduled until after the U.S. elections in November. Planned visits by U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan were cancelled twice this year, at the last moment, due to the Gaza crisis), in turn affecting the iCET review. As a result, so has the visit by the U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Kurt Campbell (nicknamed 'Quadfather' or 'Asia Czar' for his role as Biden's Indo-Pacific Coordinator), who has instead focused on "Quad-Plus" meetings with the Republic of Korea and the Philippines over the past few months. All eyes are also on the Quad Foreign Minister's meeting to be scheduled in Japan this year, but much will depend on U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken being available for it.

There has been no Indian Ambassador in Washington for months, and South Block's ties with the U.S. Ambassador in India Eric Garcetti have been somewhat strained after his comments on Manipur and human rights. The State Department's comments on the state of democracy in India before the general election 2024 as well as consistent bad reviews for India in the State Department's Religious Freedom report enraged India's Ministry of External Affairs leading to the summoning of a senior US diplomat, and in turn widening the gap. Washington has been sounding excessively offensive and interfering and New Delhi prickly and reactive. The decision by the U.S. to wait for the "final results" of the general election before congratulating Mr. Modi, and then issue a statement commending civil society and journalists for their "their commitment and vital contributions to India's democratic processes and institutions", will no doubt chafe the South Block-State Department equation.

Tensions over 'plots'

Amid this discourse, the elephant in the room remains the attempted assassination of Khalistani separatist and U.S. citizen Gurpatwant Singh Pannun in New York, allegedly ordered by Indian security officials. June 2024 also marks a year since the plot in the U.S. was unearthed, along with transcripts linking the plot to the killing of Canadian citizen Hardeep Singh Nijjar outside Toronto, the same month (June 2023). Although details of the allegations became public only in November last year, it is clear that the discomfort over the perception that India is behind the killing of foreign citizens in friendly countries had begun to seep into the relationship even as Prime Minister Modi touched down in the U.S. last year. During a visit to Washington this summer, this writer saw signs that those concerns have broadened, particularly with U.S. intelligence agencies, the Department of Justice, and at the U.S. Congress, where lawmakers now routinely raise concerns from that section of the diaspora that feels most targeted by India, including those accused of terrorism by India. While the U.S.'s demand that India bring senior officials "to account" publicly for the alleged plot is a non-starter, the Government of India must realise that its theory of "rogue actors" being responsible for such a high profile plot will not wash either. It should proceed more quickly with its high-level investigation. Either way, one can expect the issue to come to a slow boil over the next few months as the trial in New York brings forth more details of what the U.S. believes, and passes on to the Canadian authorities too for the trial set to begin there.

Given the government's need to adjust to new coalition realities after the shock of the results of the general election as well as the fast-closing window of engagement with the U.S. government as Washington heads into "lame-duck" season, officials and leaders have their task cut out for them. While a possible Trump presidency in November might resolve many of the problems between them, it will most certainly introduce much more uncertainty to their ties as well. The opportunity for a Biden-Modi meeting this week then, followed by the visit by Mr. Sullivan to Delhi soon to complete the iCET review, as decided by the leaders during their phone call, is both desired and necessary for the restart they require, a year after it seemed that the relationship had reached "warp speed".

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A push for more climate action

Anwar Sadat

teaches International Environmental Law at the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi

International climate change litigation reached a milestone on May 21, 2024 when the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) delivered an advisory opinion (the Opinion) sought by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law (COSIS) concerning the specific obligations of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on climate change mitigation. The COSIS is an association of small island states set up in 2021. The ITLOS advisory opinion generates more attention in the context of the advisory proceedings to be decided by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the near future on the "Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change".

New elements

The ITLOS took a radical step by accepting the request of COSIS with the aim of identifying the obligations of states that are not parties to the COSIS Agreement. That is when the request touches principally upon the obligations of states that are not party to the agreement authorising the request. The Tribunal, in its Opinion, laid down very clearly that under Article 194(1) of the UNCLOS, "the Parties have specific obligations to take all necessary measures to prevent, reduce and control marine pollution from anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions (GHG)".

The Opinion has also removed doubts whether the release of carbon dioxide by man, directly or indirectly, into the marine environment qualifies to be in the category of substance or energy having potential deleterious effects on the marine environment within the meaning of Article 1(1)(4) of the UNCLOS.

The ITLOS clarification on carbon as pollutant bolsters the position taken by the scientific community that the surface ocean absorbs around a quarter of the CO_2 emitted into the atmosphere, at increasingly rapid rates, resulting in the progressive acidification of sea water. Other greenhouse gases (GHGs) do not have this effect. In addition, the sea also absorbs over 90% of the excess heat ('energy') generated by global warming, resulting in higher ocean temperatures and, ultimately, in sea-level rise.

> The advisory opinion by the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea is a high point in international climate change litigation

Understanding its legal importance

The principle of prevention or no harm rule which governs state behaviour towards regulation of shared natural resources (between two or more states) so as to avoid transboundary harm of a significant nature in another state has its two main limitations when the rule is sought to be applied to regulate climate crisis: its anchoring in a bilateral frame, and, the principle is not helped due to obstacles relating to attribution and standing in establishing a breach of obligation to climate change.

The Opinion, by siding with the principle for climate change (which is a collective interest as compared to bilateral ones), adds a new chapter. The necessary measures are to be decided in the light of the best available science and the relevant international rules and standards contained in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Climate Change Agreement 2015, and also 1.5° Celsius rather than 2° C as the global average temperature goal.

The Opinion describes the obligation relating to the taking of necessary measures as due diligence obligation but the standard of it in the eyes of the Opinion is stringent one given the high risks of serious and irreversible harm to the marine environment from such emissions. But the Parties' obligations in terms of taking all necessary measures to reduce anthropogenic GHG emissions within Article 194 (1) are very general in nature. This can be interpreted to mean that neither the release of all pollution (GHGs) must be prevented nor that anthropogenic GHG emissions must cease immediately or even eventually.

Measures that gradually reduce marine pollution by lowering GHG emissions over a period of time would be sufficient. Still, the identification of a general obligation by the ITLOS underlines one thing – that states do not have unfettered discretion in addressing climate change. Mere identification of general obligation will be of symbolic value and is inadequate.

Christina Voigt, an expert on environmental law, says as "most states are already implementing some action on climate change mitigation, the crux of the matter is not the existence of an obligation to mitigate climate change, but rather its content, in particular the standard of conduct applicable in relation to this obligation". The example to substantiate this point is the decision of the Netherlands Supreme Court, in *Urgenda Foundation vs The Netherlands*, where the court held that to comply with a general mitigation obligation inferred from the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) in light of the standard of due care, the Netherlands had to reduce GHG emissions to 25% below 1990 levels by 2020 (as opposed to the government's insufficient existing pledge of 17%).

The court identified this target largely by relying on scientific estimates and the least cost method of achieving the 2° C temperature goal in the Paris Agreement. The Opinion has not been able to identify the methodology concretely that can be used to assess a state's requisite level of mitigation action – as in the Urgenda judgment. Moreover, the necessary measures to be taken, as per the Opinion, are to be subject to the means available to the states and their capabilities, which means that the principle of equity cannot be ignored in deciding the requisite level of mitigation action, if any.

Though advisory opinion lacks legal force, it does not necessarily affect its political pull as authoritative judicial pronouncements.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Alternative medicine

The recent article by Dr. K. Madan Gopal, "The delicate balancing of health-care costs" (Editorial page, June 4), on the need for balancing health-care costs, puts forth much needed insights into the matter.

India enjoys medical pluralism and the role of alternative health care too needs to be deliberated upon in this context, especially in the preventive aspect.

For instance, a patient of Osteoarthritis (Stage 1) reporting to a PHC should be provided with information regarding effective management of the same through Ayurveda. The scenario now is such that the patient is put on non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and analgesics, which treat the symptoms while the cause persists. The condition easily progresses to the later stages which require surgical intervention. This results in decreased productivity and quality of life as well as a growing financial burden. Intervention through alternative medical systems that have clinically established efficacy in specific conditions should be mainstreamed and made available to patients upon primary consultation. This level of integration of medical systems needs to be implemented at the grass-root levels.

As the global morbidity trend shifts steadily towards non-communicable and lifestyle diseases, alternative systems of health care can rise to the occasion, with the right kind of policymaking at the State and national levels.

Dr. D. Ramanathan,
Thrissur, Kerala

At Roland Garros

A Spaniard is once again the king of Roland Garros. Though it is Carlos Alcaraz's first triumph on the storied clay court in Paris, he carried on the tradition of countryman Rafael Nadal. The future of world tennis seems to be in safe hands.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Why India needs a third aircraft carrier

Rahul Bedi

is senior journalist covering military and security affairs for a clutch of overseas publications and domestic news portals

Recent media reports indicate that the Indian Navy's long-standing demand for a third aircraft carrier is finally shuffling closer to fruition, with Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) set to begin the construction of an add-on Vikrant-class 40,000-odd tonne platform.

Building the Indigenous Aircraft Carrier-2, or IAC-2, albeit with upgrades, modifications and greater local content compared with IAC-1 Vikrant, is also intended to prevent CSL's carrier-building expertise, from lapsing into disuse. The navy remains palpably conscious of not re-experiencing the 'lost decade' between 1995 and 2005 when Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilder's (MDL) submarine building expertise was allowed to deliberately dissipate.

This costly fumble led to MDL's submarine construction facilities disintegrating, following the unresolved corruption scandal involving the Indian Navy's purchase of four German HDW Type 209/1500 diesel-electric submarines (SSKs). These were thereafter resurrected in 2005 at a high cost, to licence-construct six French Scorpene SSKs, five of which have already been commissioned into Indian Navy service, while the sixth is due for induction by the year-end. Hence, the Navy's keenness on averting such a bloomer with regard to CSL by insisting on a larger carrier of around 65,000 tonne, and settling instead for the 'interim' IAC-2.

Future, concerns

The IAC-2 would supplement *INS Vikramaditya*, the 46,000 tonne refurbished Russian Kiev-class vessel and the 40,262 tonne short-take off barrier-arrested recovery (STOBAR) Vikrant, fulfiling the navy's enduring requirement for one carrier each for its two seaboards, and another in reserve.

The debate over IAC-2 has been plagued by numerous reservations like its astronomical cost of around $5-6 billion and its operational efficacy in an environment of burgeoning anti-access/area denial (A2/AD) capability honed by China and Pakistan. The A2/AD is essentially a multi-layered defensive strategy to deter enemy carrier operations.

Furthermore, recent advances in cruise missile technology have made it easier and cheaper for countries like China and Pakistan to conduct A2/AD operations. So much so that even the U.S. Navy considered China's evolved A2/AD strategy a serious threat to its fleet, and remained wary of challenging it.

Moreover, within the Indian Navy, opinion was split between operationally pursuing a 'sea denial' strategy, largely by deploying submarines, or alternately seeking a 'sea control' approach via costly and relatively more vulnerable carrier battle groups comprising multiple surface and underwater escorts. Some also questioned the monetary logic of building a new carrier at the cost of inducting additional 'killer-hunters' SSKs whose numbers in the Indian Navy had depleted to 16, of which 11 from Russia and Germany were either beyond, or nearing retirement. These SSKs were eight boats less than the 24 which the Navy was projected to operate by 2030 in accordance with its Maritime Capability Perspective Plan (MCPP). Correspondingly, equally critical surface combatants like corvettes, nine-sweepers, destroyers and frigates too were in short supply, as were naval utility helicopters, unmanned aerial vehicles, and other assorted missiles and ordnance.

Financial constraints have forced the Indian Navy to revise its goal of operating 200 assorted warships by 2027 in keeping with the MCPP. These fiscal shortages had also reduced the Navy's demand for 12 mine counter-measures to eight and an additional 10 Boeing P-8I Neptune long range maritime multi-mission aircraft, to just six.

Meanwhile, the Indian Air Force (IAF) along with the Indian Army was forever competing for a greater share of depreciating annual defence budgets, as it grappled to make good its fighter, helicopter and transport aircraft shortages, alongside other essential equipment.

IAF veterans reasoned that under the prevailing penurious conditions, an aircraft carrier would not only be a 'costly indulgence' but more pertinently, entail fielding a platform vulnerable to formidable A2/AD threats.

Other IAF officers believed that SEPECAT Jaguar IM/IS and multi-role Russian Sukhoi Su-30MKI fighters, fitted with enhanced maritime strike capability and extended strike ranges, could project power more economically and securely than a carrier.

The IAF's maritime Jaguar IM fleet, for instance, is armed with AGM-84L Block II Harpoon missiles and is also being equipped with Israel Aerospace Industries-Elta EL/M-2052/2060 multi-mode active electronically scanned array radar for sea-borne operations.

Upgrading capabilities

And, in early 2020 the IAF had commissioned its first Su-30MKI squadron, armed with the BrahMos-A(Air) supersonic cruise missile at Thanjavur on India's southeast coast to monitor its seacoasts and the wider Indian Ocean Region. Military planners said Su-30MKI would enhance the IAFs capability to engage potential maritime targets with pinpoint accuracy.

Other navalists favoured upgrading the military capabilities of the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago, by creating an A2/AD maritime 'exclusive zone' around it to deter, amongst others, the hegemonic Chinese navy. And while the archipelago was undoubtedly 'immovable' it was likely to be cheaper than an aircraft carrier, besides being unsinkable.

Building the IAC-2, albeit with upgrades, modifications and greater local content compared with IAC-1 Vikrant, is also intended to prevent CSLs carrier-building expertise from lapsing into disuse

Political tides in Telangana

The Lok Sabha election showcased a mixed outcome for major political parties

STATE OF PLAY

Ravi Reddy
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The outcome of the Lok Sabha election for the 17 seats in Telangana has been a mix of sweet and sour experiences for all the major political parties.

The BJP is elated for having doubled its tally to eight seats and this has been amply rewarded with the elevation of State unit chief G. Kishan Reddy yet again as a Union Cabinet Minister. Firebrand leader and former chief Bandi Sanjay Kumar, winning his second consecutive Lok Sabha election from Karimnagar, has been appointed as Minister of State in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Cabinet.

The ruling Congress party missed out on an opportunity to continue its winning streak though its numbers had risen from three in 2019 polls to eight. It exuded confidence on crossing the double digit mark but party chief and Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had to sweat it out in the north Telangana region against the BJP resurgence.

The Bharat Rashtra Samiti (BRS) faced a significant setback, losing all seats and failing to retain deposits in as many as eight constituencies. This indicates that the drubbing received in the Assembly election last year winning only 39 against Congress tally of 64 is fresh in people's minds.

The party's strength has already come down to 38 technically with the loss of its candidate in the by-election to Secunderabad Cantonment Assembly Constituency after the tragic death of its MLA G. Lasya Nanditha. The party fielded her sibling G. Niveditha this time but she lost the election. In reality, the BRS's numbers are down to 35 now as Danam Nagender, Kadiyam Srihari and Tellam Venkat Rao were elected on the party symbol but have already joined the ruling Congress and more could follow suit in the coming months for 'power'.

Majlis Party chief Asaduddin Owaisi retained the Hyderabad Lok Sabha constituency with a margin of over three lakh votes even as his rival and political novice Madhavi Latha of the BJP caused a buzz on social media with provocative stances. Yet, it needs to stay alert as the massive outreach programme of the BJP to gain a foothold in the old city can be ignored at its own peril.

Various challenges

The Congress Party riding strong on its five months of governance needs to do some soul searching as Mr. Revanth Reddy termed the Lok Sabha polls as a 'referendum' for his government. The results showed it had lost the majority in 15 seats which it had won during the Assembly elections.

The government's promise of clean, accessible governance and initiatives by the Chief Minister in the past few months did receive favourable feedback. But it seems to have faltered on the issue of handling farmers' woes such as paddy procurement, seeds shortage and complaints of erratic power supply.

"We expected 12 seats but there was a clear transfer of BRS votes to BJP so we lost out in a few constituencies. A little more effort would have helped us win the Secunderabad and Mahabubnagar constituencies. We will now focus on strengthening the party in defeated seats," said Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti.

The BJP partially succeeded in leveraging communal sentiments and reaped the benefits of 'Modi magic', winning five seats in north and central Telangana. But, in South Telangana, it was the Congress show as its candidates won by two to five lakh margins with the only exception being in Mahabubngar where BJP's D.K. Aruna barely scraped through with 4,500 votes.

The party needs to examine and introspect whether its overt focus on religion and overt faith in turncoats has yielded results. Long time party leaders are upset but the central leadership has been giving their concerns a cold shoulder though the selection of Mr. Kishan Reddy and Mr. Sanjay Kumar has come as a soothing balm.

The BJP's vote share has improved to 35.08% from 19.65% in 2019 while the BRS's vote share has fallen to 16.68 % from 41.71% clearing indicating the vote transfer. Will this vote continue to stay put with the BJP is a big question.

As for the BRS, former State Planning Board vice-chairman and Karimnagar candidate B. Vinod Kumar admitted that in the fight between Congress and the BJP, the BRS had lost out. "The local bodies elections will surely show where we stand in terms of grassroots support," he claimed.

The results have given clear lessons to all these parties to make course corrections before the next polls.

Confidence about economy declines after consistent recovery

RBI survey shows confidence about the economy, that reached a post-COVID peak in March this year, marginally declined in May

DATA POINT

The Hindu Data Team

Confidence about the economy, job opportunities and income levels marginally declined over the past two months, shows data from the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) bi-monthly Consumer Confidence Survey. The decline in confidence came after a consistent and steady increase in optimism in the post-COVID period.

The survey was conducted in May 2024, as the country cast its votes for the Lok Sabha elections, in urban households across 19 cities including, Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, and Chennai. It aims to determine current perceptions and expectations on various aspects of the economy. The findings quantify opinions on the general economic climate, employment, price levels, incomes, inflation, and trends in expenditure, compared to the situation from a year-ago.

In May 2021, only 7.5% of respondents in the RBI survey believed that the economy had improved compared to a year-ago. Following this, the share of optimistic respondents consistently increased, with 22.5% of respondents claiming an improvement in May 2022 and 32.1% in May 2023. Confidence about the economy continued to recover in the following months and reached a peak with 41.2% saying it improved in March 2024. However, in the latest round of the survey in May 2024, this share recorded a marginal decline to 40%, halting the recovery. **Chart 1** shows the respondents' opinions on the general economic situation when compared to a year-ago period.

The share of urban consumers who are confident about their job prospects increased from 8.1% in May 2021, to 27.3% in May 2022, and 32.1% in May 2023. Consumers continued to be optimistic about the job outlook in the following months and reached a peak with 38.1% saying it improved in March 2024. In the latest round in May 2024, this share too showed a marginal decline to 36.8%.

Notably, in March 2024, for the first time after the pandemic started, the share of consumers who said that their job opportunities worsened was not higher than those who said it improved. Due to the marginal decline in May 2024, this was not the case anymore. **Chart 2** shows the shares of respondents who believed that the employment situation had improved/worsened compared to a year-ago period.

In May 2024, over 90% of the respondents said that price levels had increased when compared to the year before. The share of respondents with such views has remained over 90% since January 2021, with those saying price levels decreased remaining below the 2% mark. **Chart 3** depicts the share of respondents' views on the price levels of commodities over the years.

In May 2024, the share of respondents who said income levels have increased since 2023 reduced from 27.7% in March 2024 to 25.3% in May 2024. The percentage of respondents who believe their income levels have decreased has risen from 21.7% in March 2024 to 22.4% in May 2024. **Chart 4** plots respondents' opinions of current income levels compared to 2023.

Put together, the consistent recovery in confidence about the economy, jobs and income levels, recorded in the many months after the pandemic threat ended, paused in May 2024. The persistent problem of rise in prices, and this marginal rise in pessimism paints a worrying picture. Given that the 2024 polls were fought more on the grounds of livelihood issues such as inflation, unemployment and falling income, the new government sworn in on Monday should take a serious look at the findings of the RBI's survey's latest edition.

Confidence tracker

The data for this analysis were sourced from the Reserve Bank of India's Consumer Confidence Survey

Chart 1: The chart shows the respondents' opinions on the economic situation when compared to a year-ago period

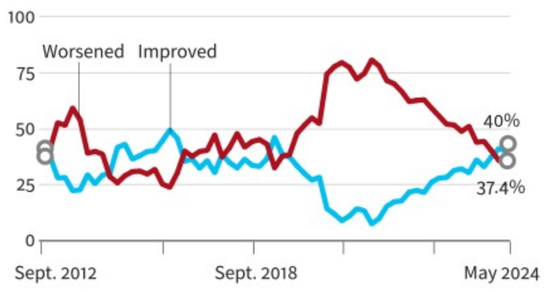


Chart 2: The chart shows the respondents' opinions on employment opportunities compared to a year-ago period

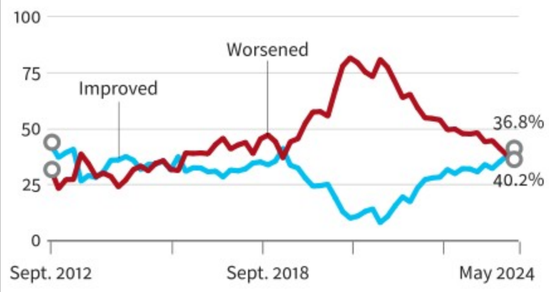


Chart 3: The chart depicts the share of respondents' views on the price levels of commodities over the years

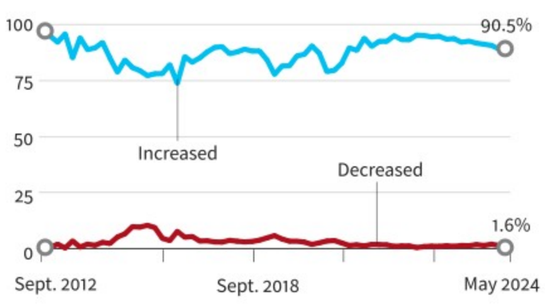
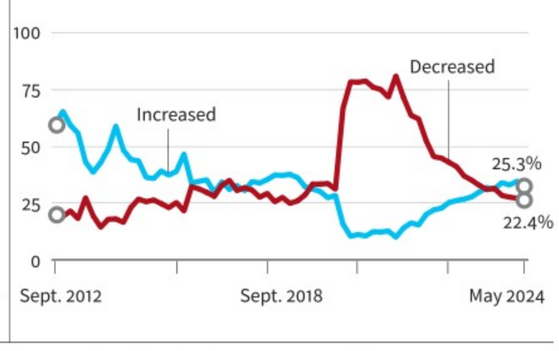


Chart 4: The chart plots respondents' opinions on current income levels compared to a year-ago period



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 11, 1974

Council recommends Bangla for UN

United Nations, June 10: The U.N. Security Council today unanimously adopted a resolution recommending to the General Assembly the admission of Bangladesh as a member of the world body.

The resolution was passed without a vote in accordance with a consensus reached by the council members earlier.

The Mauritanian Ambassador, who is the current month's President of the Council, congratulated Bangladesh as soon as the resolution was adopted. The Chinese Charge d'Affaires said that his government welcomed the positive developments in the situation in the sub-continent and mentioned the implementation of the Council.

He said that his government was ready to develop neighbourly relations with the countries of the sub-continent on the basis of peaceful co-existence.

India, Bhutan, Pakistan and Algeria specially sought the floor of the Council to welcome the decision.

The Soviet Ambassador, Mr. Yakov Malik, recalled the efforts made by his government in the Council for the admission of Bangladesh.

The U.S. representative, Mr. William E. Schaufele, praised the Bangladesh Prime Minister, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, for having played a statesmanlike role in resolving outstanding issues.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 11, 1924

Under-ground Railway.

Bombay, June 10: Bombay will have an underground railway system just on the London Model. The government has proposed to The B. B. and C. I. Railway company to put their line underground between two suburban stations in order to give the public free access to the free front. The cost of the scheme according to the government can be covered by the sale of frontages along the Queen's Road which now runs parallel to the railway line and which will be released if the scheme were put into operation. Not a mere boring of a tunnel, but the construction of a covered has been proposed. The cost of operations which is already in progress will be borne by the government.

From Page One

No change of guard in key Ministries

Jyotiraditya Scindia seems to have received a leg-up by securing the Telecom Ministry, another key infrastructure portfolio.

Only Aviation saw a change, and was handed to K. Rammohan Naidu of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP), a portfolio that had been with the party in the first Modi government, when Ashok Gajapati Raju had held the Ministry.

Former Chief Ministers who were newly sworn in as Ministers were also given key Ministries. Former Haryana CM Manohar Lal got the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry. Former Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan received charge of the crucial Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development, a reflection of the fact that under his tenure as CM, wheat production had broken all records in the State.

At a time when calls for a caste census are being raised both from outside and within the NDA government, Virender Kumar has been retained with the Social Justice portfolio.

With the Lok Sabha seeing a far bigger contingent of Opposition MPs, Arunachal Pradesh MP Kiren Rijiju has been made Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. Mr. Rijiju, a Buddhist, has been given charge of the Minority Affairs Ministry as well. Even with allies, allocations have followed a pattern of continuity, with Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan' holding the portfolio of Panchayati Raj, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry.

H.D. Kumaraswamy of the Janata Dal (S) got the portfolio of Heavy Industries and Steel. Former Bihar Chief Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi is Minister for Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs). Chirag Paswan holds the Food Processing Ministry. Among Ministers from the BJP, C.R. Patil got the crucial Ministry of Jal Shakti, a flagship post where close rapport with Mr. Modi is a key factor. Dharmendra Pradhan retained Education, Arjun Ram Meghwal retained Law and Pralhad Joshi moved to Food, Civil Supplies and Renewable Energy.

Manipur CM's security convoy attacked

"It is very unfortunate and highly condemnable. It's an attack on the Chief Minister, which means a direct attack on the people of the State. The State government has to do something... we will take a decision," Mr. Singh said.

A police official said a combing operation had been launched by joint security forces.

Jiribam district has been affected by violence for the past one week. The Manipur Police said on Saturday that several houses belonging to both Meitei and Kuki communities were burnt by unknown miscreants in the district in the disturbances that broke out following the murder of a farmer on June 6.

Migrant workers in State given security, says Biren

Two labourers working for a water supply company were injured in the attack.

The Manipur Police said they had arrested Sairom Birjit Singh, a member of the Kangleipak Communist Party, one of the seven valley-based Meitei extremist groups that has been routinely banned by the government.

"There was no security at the place where the labourer was killed. We have warned people that next time if any such incident happens, then they will be engaged legally. There are nearly 4,000 workers engaged in highway construction and railway projects, among others. We are providing security at these locations," Mr. Singh said.

He added that it was true that extortions had increased in the past year, but the message was clear that the "rule of law" must prevail.

The Chief Minister said he hoped the new government at the Centre would consider the implementation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in the State.

Reasi bus attack: LeT involvement suspected

Teams of the National Investigation Agency, State Investigation Agency and the Forensic Department also inspected the spot of the terror attack.

The Army, police and Central Reserve Police Force are jointly carrying out searches in the Teryath-Poni-Shiv Khori area, adjacent to Rajouri district. Drones and sniffer dogs were pressed into service. Village defence committees, which have armed men in them, were asked to track the attackers.

Nine pilgrims were killed and over 33 were injured when militants fired at the driver and the passengers of the bus carrying pilgrims from Shiv Khori to Katra.

Four victims were from Rajasthan and three from Uttar Pradesh. Among the dead included a two-year-old boy and 14-year-old Anurag Verma from Uttar Pradesh. At least 10 people sustained bullet wounds.

The Jammu and Kashmir government has announced an ex gratia of ₹10 lakh for the family members of those killed and ₹50,000 for the injured.

Hundreds from Manipur flee to Assam's Cachar

More than 600 people have found shelter in the Lakhipur area over the past four days, say officials; violence erupted in Jiribam district of Manipur after discovery of a body on June 6

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

More than a year after the ethnic conflict in Manipur drove some 12,000 people to Mizoram, hundreds of victims of renewed violence have taken refuge in Assam.

Officials in Barak Valley in southern Assam said more than 600 people, including women and children, had fled the troubled Jiribam district of Manipur to seek shelter in Cachar district.

"Most of the displaced people have taken refuge in the Lakhipur area over the past four days," Superintendent of Police, Cachar, Numal Mahatta told presspersons. "There are no reports of any untoward incident in Cachar so far. Police patrolling in Jirighat on the border as well as along the national highway and nearby villages is being conducted," he said.

Mr. Mahatta also said that the situation on the Assam side is under control. Cachar adjoins Jiribam.

Seeking safety: Displaced people with their relatives and friends in a camp in Cachar district of Assam. Officials said there are no reports of any untoward incident in the district so far. FILE PHOTO

Kaushik Rai, MLA, said no formal camps hd been set up for the displaced and efforts were on to hold peace meetings with diverse communities in the area to offset any violence in the area.

Measures taken

"The people who have come from Manipur are being allowed to stay here safely. The local administration is taking all steps to ensure there is no spread of any violence here," Mr. Rai said.

Residents of the bordering areas said Meitei and Kuki-Zo people are among the displaced staying with their relatives and friends in Cachar district. They said the people have taken shelter in various parts of Lakhipur, entering the State by crossing the Jiri river.

The discovery of a body on June 6 rekindled the Meitei-Kuki-Zo conflict but away from Manipur's central Imphal Valley and the adjoining foothills in an area bordering the neighbouring State.

Two police outposts, a forest beat office and at least 70 houses were torched in Jiribam by unidentified miscreants on Saturday, leading to fresh tensions in the neighbouring State which has been witnessing ethnic violence since May last year.

(With PTI inputs)

'Manipur CM should have sacked DGP and Security Adviser'

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

A. Bimol Akoijam

Inner Manipur MP-elect A. Bimol Akoijam on Monday questioned why Chief Minister N. Biren Singh had not yet sacked Director-General of Police Rajiv Singh and Security Adviser Kuldiep Singh and taken charge of the Unified Headquarters, hours after *The Hindu* reported that the most recent spate of attacks in Jiribam district had taken place despite warnings sent to the police chief and the Security Adviser.

Mr. Akoijam alluded to whether these appointments were being made on the basis of diktats from Delhi, questioning why one should allow Delhi to "erode the federal structure" and "autonomy" of the State.

In three letters to the DGP and the Security Adviser in January, the CMO flagged reported movements of around 200 "Kuki militants" in the Jiribam area at the time.

Calling the letters written months ago "intriguing", Mr. Akoijam said, "The DGP and the Security Adviser have been appointed by the State Government... The Chief Minister should have sacked these top security officials appointed by him long time back and taken over charge of the chairmanship of the Unified Headquarters. Why did not he do that?"

'Whose failure?'

"The Chief Minister is not only the head of the government but also the Home Minister of the State. Presumably, the information about the movement of armed Kuki militants in the Jiri areas must have come from the intelligence agencies, including the one from the State police. So, the question is, whose failure is this? It is not just related to Jiribam but all throughout the crisis," said Mr. Akoijam, who joined the Opposition Congress ahead of the polls to contest on its ticket.

Poll campaigns led to increase in social tensions: RSS chief

The Hindu Bureau
PUNE

Mohan Bhagwat

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat on Monday called for peace in strife-torn Manipur, and said campaigning for the Lok Sabha election had increased "social tensions and suspicion" among people.

Addressing Sangh workers at an event in Nagpur, Mr. Bhagwat said that while elections are an essential process of democracy, there ought to be a limit to one's rhetoric during campaigning.

"There are two parties. There is competition. Since it is a contest, efforts will be made by both to push oneself forward. But there is a dignity to this process. Lies should not be used. People are being elected to go to Parliament and run our country. They do so by reaching a consensus. That has been our tradition. This [election] contest is not a war," the RSS chief said.

"The manner of campaigning was one in which social tensions and suspicion among people would increase and two groups would be divided. Care was not taken to ensure that this did not happen. Without any reason, organisations like the RSS were dragged into this," he said.

He also said that Manipur has been waiting for peace for a year.

"The State had been peaceful for 10 years. It had appeared that gun culture had ended. However, who is thinking of dousing the flames that have erupted now? Peace has to be considered on priority basis," he said.

Mr. Bhagwat further said that the Opposition should not be considered an adversary and "their opinions should also come to light".

Nawaz Sharif praises Modi for third term, asks to 'seize the opportunity'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Beyond borders: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar with Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal in New Delhi on Monday. ANI

Nawaz Sharif, former Prime Minister of Pakistan and president of the ruling PML-N, on Monday greeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his re-election, and said the two sides should "seize" the moment to shape the future of South Asia. The message from Mr. Sharif came on a day when the visiting dignitaries from the neighbourhood met External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.

"My warm felicitations to Modi*ji* on assuming office for the third time. Your party's success in recent elections reflects the confidence of the people in your leadership. Let us replace hate with hope and seize the opportunity to shape the destiny of the two billion people of South Asia," said Mr. Sharif who had participated in the swearing-in ceremony of Mr. Modi in May 2014.

Mr. Modi had subsequently dropped by at Lahore and attended the wedding of the granddaughter of Mr. Sharif on December 25, 2015. The relation, however, went downhill following a terror attack in Pathankot on January 2, 2016.

A few hours before the message from Mr. Sharif, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif greeted Mr. Modi on 'X'.

Responding to the message from the former Premier, Mr. Modi emphasised "peace, security and progressive ideas", and added, "Advancing the well-being and security of our people shall always remain our priority."

Exchange of pleasantries between the Indian and Pakistani sides took place even as India welcomed leaders from the neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean region for Sunday's swearing-in ceremony from which the Pakistani leaders were excluded.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Jaishankar met Vice-President Ahmed Afif of the Seychelles, Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay of Bhutan, Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth of Mauritius, Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' of Nepal, President Mohamed Muizzu of the Maldives, and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh. Mr. Muizzu and Mr. Prachanda called on President Droupadi Murmu later.

Unlike in 2014, when the visiting leaders and representatives of the neighbourhood were hosted for a semi-formal "mini-SAARC summit", this time, however, the Prime Minister did not host a formal bilateral meeting. The foreign dignitaries attended a banquet at the Rashtrapati Bhavan after Mr. Modi was sworn in.

He then met them informally on the sidelines of the main event on Sunday.

'Natural bonds'

Later on Monday, Ms. Hasina met the leadership of the Congress, consisting of leader of Congress Parliamentary Party president Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, and Priyanka Gandhi.

Mr. Gandhi said the meeting included a discussion over "a wide range of topics" to enhance "natural bonds" between the two countries with emphasis on "trust, cooperation and a commitment to mutual growth".

Ms. Hasina was accompanied by her colleagues that included Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen and the High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India Mustafizur Rahman.

Reasi terror attack exposes BJP's claim of peace in Kashmir: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday said the terror attack on a bus carrying pilgrims at Reasi, which left nine people dead and many injured on Sunday, exposed the reality of the BJP's claim of peace and normalcy returning to Jammu and Kashmir (J&K).

In a video statement, Congress leader Pawan Khera said that while the swearing-in ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi was going on and the India-Pakistan cricket match was under way in the T20 World Cup, pilgrims in J&K had to bear the brunt of attack of militants. "Can cricket and terrorism go hand in hand," he asked.

"Just by claiming that we have brought back peace and patting your backs don't ensure peace and security. Just by making speeches, you don't bring peace. The country demands answers," Mr. Khera said.

"For the past 10 years, we have been told that there is peace in Kashmir. Where is this peace and it is for whom? Migrant labourers don't have peace. Ask Kashmir Pandits if they consider peace has returned, local people don't agree. There is no peace for the security forces or even tourists...Where is this peace?" he asked.

Candle march held

The Indian Youth Congress (IYC) organised a candle march here for the victims of the terrorist attack. "The cowardly attack by terrorists on a bus full of pilgrims in Jammu and Kashmir is extremely sad and shameful, we strongly condemn it. Terrorism is a violent act against humanity. The whole country stands in solidarity with the victims," IYC chief Srinivas B.V. said. Mr. Srinivas also demanded that the Central government provide adequate compensation to the families of the deceased and injured as soon as possible.

In a statement, the J&K unit of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) condemned the attack and said the administration should introspect why such incidents are occurring repeatedly.

Student outfits protest NEET 'irregularities', demand investigation

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Members of several student outfits on Monday protested outside the Ministry of Education at Shastri Bhavan here, demanding a probe into the alleged irregularities in the conduct of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET).

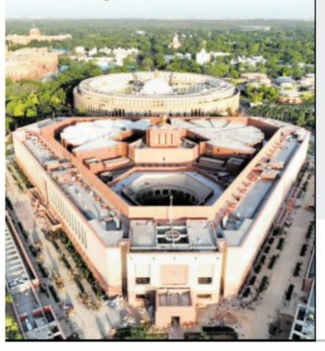
The entrance test is conducted every year by the National Testing Agency (NTA) for admissions to undergraduate courses at medical colleges.

A controversy erupted after 67 students shared the first rank in the results declared on June 4, leading to allegations of inflating of marks of some candidates.

The Central testing agency had on Saturday trashed the accusations and said the changes made in National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks and grace marks awarded for losing time at the examination centres were some of the reasons behind the students scoring higher marks.

Balancing act

Allies and regional equations have been kept in mind while distributing portfolios



MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

Rao Inderjit Singh: Statistics and Programme Implementation (Independent Charge); Planning (Independent Charge); and Minister of State for Culture

Jitendra Singh: Science and Technology (Independent Charge); Earth Sciences (Independent Charge); MoS in the Prime Minister's Office; Mos in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; MoS in the Department of Atomic Energy; MoS in the Department of Space

Arjun Ram Meghwal: Law and Justice (Independent Charge); and MoS in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

Jadhav Prataprao Ganpatrao: Ayush (Independent Charge); and MoS in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Jayant Chaudhary: Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge); and MoS in the Ministry of Education

MINISTERS OF STATE

Jitin Prasada: Commerce and Industry; and Electronics and Information Technology

Shripad Naik: Power; and New and Renewable Energy.

Pankaj Chaudhary: Finance

Krishan Pal: Cooperation

Ramdas Athawale: Social Justice and Empowerment

Ram Nath Thakur: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Nityanand Rai: Home Affairs

Anupriya Patel: Health and Family Welfare; and Chemicals and Fertilizers

V. Somanna: Jal Shakti; and Railways

Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani: Rural Development; and Communications

S. P. Singh Baghel: Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; and Panchayati Raj

Shobha Karandlaje: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; and Labour and Employment

Kirtivardhan Singh: Environment, Forest and Climate Change; and External Affairs

L. Murugan: Information and Broadcasting; and Parliamentary Affairs

B. L. Verma: Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and Social Justice and Empowerment

Shantanu Thakur: Ports, Shipping and Waterways

Suresh Gopi: Petroleum and Natural Gas; and Tourism

Ajay Tamta: Road Transport and Highways

Bandi Sanjay Kumar: Home Affairs

Kamlesh Paswan: Rural Development

Bhagirath Choudhary: Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Satish Chandra Dubey: Coal; and Mines

Sanjay Seth: Defence

Ravneet Singh Bittu: Food Processing Industries; and Railways

Durgadas Uikey: Tribal Affairs

Raksha Nikhil Khadse: Youth Affairs and Sports

Sukanta Majumdar: Education; and Development of North Eastern Region

Savitri Thakur: Women and Child Development

Tokhan Sahu: Housing and Urban Affairs

Raj Bhushan Choudhary: Jal Shakti

Bhupathi Raju Srinivasa Varma: Heavy Industries; Steel

Harsh Malhotra: Corporate Affairs; Road Transport and Highways

Nimuben Jayantibhai Bambhaniya: Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

Murlidhar Mohol: Cooperation; and Civil Aviation

George Kurian: Minority Affairs; and Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

Pabitra Margherita: External Affairs; and Textiles

Without Census 2021, 14-cr. people deprived of food aid: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday said that 14-crore people had been deprived of the benefits under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) as the list of beneficiaries had not been updated because the decadal census did not take place in 2021.

In a social media post, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had to tell the country soon when the Census would be conducted.

He also demanded that the Census provide data on the population of communities categorised under Other Backward Classes (OBC) to give "true" meaning to social justice enshrined in the Constitution.

Mr. Ramesh said that a comprehensive Census is essential for socio-economic development, noting that the last Census was to be completed in 2021.

"But Mr. Modi did not get it done. One immediate consequence of not having Census 2021 conducted is that at least 14 crore Indians are being deprived of benefits under the National Food Security Act, 2013, repackaged as PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana," he said.

"The 'one-third' Prime Minister has to tell the country soon when the updated census will be conducted. The decennial census has since 1951 provided data on the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes," Mr. Ramesh said.

In the run-up to the election, the promise of conducting a nationwide caste census was a major campaign plank for the Congress and its manifesto had promised one if it came to power.

"The updated census must provide data on the population of communities categorised as Other Backward Classes (OBCs) as well," he added.

PM Kisan Nidhi instalment released to 9.3-cr. farmers

Narendra Modi says his newly sworn-in government is fully committed to the welfare of farmers; Congress retorts saying he has done nobody a great favour as these are legitimate entitlements

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union government on Monday released the 17th instalment of the PM Kisan Nidhi scheme as the first decision of the new Narendra Modi government.

The Opposition said Mr. Modi, by signing the file, has done nobody a great favour as these are legitimate entitlements due to the beneficiary farmers by his government's policy.

The Union Agriculture Ministry said in a release that after being sworn in as Prime Minister for the third time, Mr. Modi signed his first file authorising the release of the latest instalment. "This will benefit 9.3 crore farmers and distribute around ₹20,000 crore," the release said.

Mr. Modi said his government is fully committed to the welfare of farmers. "It is therefore fitting that the first file signed on taking charge is related to farmers' welfare," he said.

Terming the decision a "great show", Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the 16th instalment of PM Kisan Nidhi was due in January, but was delayed by a month for the PM's electoral calculus.

"The 'one-third' Pradhan Mantri has done nobody a great favour by signing this file: these are legitimate entitlements due to farmers according to his government's own policy," he said. The Congress leader said Mr. Modi has made a habit of converting routine administrative decisions into some great bonanza he is bestowing on the people.

Centre releases June tax devolution to States

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday decided to release an additional instalment of the tax devolution share of States along with their due share for June 2024.

Effectively, ₹1,39,750 crore is being transferred to States this month.

The move is seen as a goodwill gesture by the newly-formed NDA government towards States, including its key alliance partners TDP and JD(U).

Monday's transfer to States includes ₹14,056 crore for Bihar, and ₹5,655 crore to Andhra Pradesh.

PMAY to assist construction of three crore houses

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Hours after Prime Minister Narendra Modi took charge of his office for the third straight time on Monday, the new Union Cabinet took its first decision – to provide assistance for construction of three crore more rural and urban houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY).

"It has been decided in the Cabinet meeting today to provide assistance to three crore additional rural and urban households for the construction of houses," said a government official.

Prime Minister's Office should be people's office, Modi tells his team

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi formally re-assumed office for a third term on Monday, and addressed officials at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) in South Block, giving out a message that his office should be the "people's PMO and cannot be Modi's PMO".

Brief outreach: Narendra Modi addressing officials of the Prime Minister's Office in South Block on Monday. PTI

"Ten years ago, the image in our country was that the PMO is a power centre, a very big power centre and I was not born for power. I do not think of acquiring power. For me, it is neither my wish nor my path that the PMO should become a power centre. The steps we have taken since 2014, we have tried to develop it as a catalytic agent," he said.

"Our aim is to keep generating new energy from here that provides new light to the whole system... PMO should be people's PMO and it cannot be Modi's PMO," he added.

'24X7 for 2047'

The PM said he is dedicated to the welfare of 140 crore citizens. "Together we have just one goal – Nation First; just one intention – 2047 Viksit Bharat. I have said this publicly, *mera pal pal desh ke naam hai* [every minute of mine is dedicated to the nation]. I have also promised the country – 24X7 for 2047. I have such expectations from the team...," he said.

CPI(M) Polit Bureau calls for introspection

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Calling the June 4 results a "significant setback" for the BJP, the CPI(M), at the end of its Polit Bureau meetingon Monday, also expressed disappointment at the party's performance, especially in Kerala, and called for an introspection at the State level.

The Left parties marginally improved their Lok Sabha presence with eight MPs as the CPI(M) won four seats and the CPI and CPI(ML) two each.

In Kerala, the Left parties won only one seat, with CPI(M)'s K. Radhakrishnan defeating the Congress's Ramya Haridas by a margin of 20,111 votes in Alathur.

Jolt in Bengal

In West Bengal, the Left's alliance with the Congress, which had received a fair amount of pushback within the party, again failed. The Left Front failed to win a single seat in the State.

The CPI(M) sounded a word of caution for the Opposition, saying the BJP will try to re-establish "Modi's hegemony".

INBRIEF

Prem Singh Tamang sworn in as Chief Minister of Sikkim

Sikkim Krantikari Morcha supremo Prem Singh Tamang on Monday took oath as the Chief Minister of the Himalayan State for the second consecutive term. The 56-year-old politician was administered the oath of office and secrecy by Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya at a function held in Paljor Stadium in Gangtok. Eleven other Ministers also took oath along with him. Thousands of party supporters turned up to witness the swearing-in ceremony. The stadium erupted in loud sounds of firecrackers as Mr. Tamang was sworn in. The bursting of firecrackers is otherwise prohibited in Sikkim. PTI

Trinamool will raise MSP issue in Parliament: Mamata

West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress president Mamata Banerjee assured protesting farmers on the Haryana-Punjab boundary that her party will raise the issue of giving legal guarantee for minimum support price (MSP) in the upcoming session of Parliament. Ms. Banerjee spoke to the protesting farmers, via a video call, during a visit by a five-member delegation of Trinamool MPs on the Khanauri boundary. Ms. Banerjee told the protesters that her party will "always stand for justice for farmers". She interacted with farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal over the phone.

Engineer Rashid seeks bail to take oath in Lok Sabha

A Delhi court will hear arguments on an application filed by Engineer Rashid seeking interim bail to take oath as an MP on June 18. He is being held in a 2016 Jammu and Kashmir terror funding case. Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid, defeated former CM Omar Abdullah in the Baramulla constituency in the Lok Sabha polls. Mr. Rashid contested as an Independent and defeated the National Conference vice-president. He is also a former MLA from the Union Territory. He has been in jail since 2019 after he was charged by the NIA under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act . The NIA had submitted in court that the notification for oath taking by MPs was not published yet. PTI

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2051/07.06.24 (RIS2425WSO B00019)	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Establishment of RCAT Center at Bikaner Zonal HQ	Rs.1.50 Cr. Rs. 3.00 Lakh	20.06.2024 03.07.2024

Details can be seen on the websites http://risl.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://doitc.rajasthan.gov.in. Bids are to be submitted through http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.
Raj.Samwad/C/24/449 EE (Electrical), DoIT&C

KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - E - Tender Notice
O/o the Chief Engineer, (P & SCM), Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Thiruvananthapuram
E-Tender ID: 2024_KSEB_674137_1 PAC : Rs. 2,25,63,000/-
Last Date- 21.06.2024 04.30 pm
Tender Extension Notice
O/o the Executive Engineer, PMU Electrical Circle, Kattakada, Thiruvananthapuram
E-tender ID: 2024_KSEB_673340_1 PAC: Rs. 7,16,74,124/- Last Date - 18.06.2024 03.00 pm
Re-Tender Notice
O/o the Project Manager, Chembukadavu III & Maripuzha SHEPs, Kozhikode
E-tender ID: 2024_KSEB_672550_2 PAC: Rs.1,87,01,027/- Last Date- 26.06.2024 05.00pm
Visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in and www.kseb.in
Ref : PR/MC1/E499/E-tender/2024

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH
HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ROADS TRANSFORMATION PROJECT (HPSRTP)
Request for Bids (RFB)
Name of Project:Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project (HPSRTP)
Loan No./Credit No.9066-IN
Grant No: Date: June 10, 2024
The Director (Projects), H.P. State Roads Project, HPRIDCL, Nigam Vihar, Shimla-171002 , Himachal Pradesh India invites the Request for Bids from national suppliers for the Goods Procurement as detailed in the table below:-

Sr. No.	Description of the Goods Procurement	Date of availability of Request for Bids on HPRIDCL web site	Last date/Time for submission of Proposals/ Opening of proposals
1.	Procurement of Multi utility Wrecker Vehicles to Support Rescue & Emergency Response Operations of HP Police in 3 Pilot districts Shimla, Mandi & Kangra (including Nurpur Police District). RFB Reference No.: IN-HPRIDC - 426665-GO-RFB	June 07, 2024	July 10, 2024 at 15:00/ 15:30 hours (IST)

Request for Bids (RFB) will be available on the official web site of HPRIDC under link http://himachalservices.nic.in/hpridc/HPSRTP.html .
Note: - Any further addendum/Corrigendum to this Request for Bids Document shall be available to all interesting firms on the same web site link. Proposal must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by post) by **July 10, 2024 at 15:00 hours (IST)** positively.
Director (Projects),
HP / 0027/2024-2025 State Roads Project, HPRIDCL, Nirman Bhawan, Shimla-171002

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH
HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ROADS TRANSFORMATION PROJECT (HPSRTP)
Request for Bids (RFB)
Name of Project: Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project (HPSRTP)
Loan No./Credit No.9066-IN
Grant No: Date: June 10, 2024
The Director (Projects), H.P. State Roads Project, HPRIDCL, Nigam Vihar, Shimla-171002 , Himachal Pradesh India invites the Request for Bids from national suppliers for the Goods Procurement as detailed in the table below:-

Sr. No.	Description of the Goods Procurement	Date of availability of Request for Bids on HPRIDCL web site	Last date/Time for submission of Proposals/ Opening of proposals
1.	Procurement of Field Enforcement Equipment to Support Annual Enforcement Program of HP Police in Kangra and Mandi Districts District.. RFB Reference No.: IN-HPRIDC - 426669-GO-RFB	June 07, 2024	July 05, 2024 at 15:00/ 15:30 hours (IST)

Request for Bids (RFB) will be available on the official web site of HPRIDC under link http://himachalservices.nic.in/hpridc/HPSRTP.html .
Note: - Any further addendum/Corrigendum to this Request for Bids Document shall be available to all interesting firms on the same web site link. Proposal must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by post) by **July 05, 2024 at 15:00 hours (IST)** positively.
Director (Projects),
HP / 0028/2024-2025 State Roads Project, HPRIDCL,
Nirman Bhawan, Shimla-171002

THE HINDU GROUP
THE HINDU POWERPLAY T20 TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Rohit Sharma is one of just two players to have participated in every edition of the T20 World Cup. Who is the other?
2. Who is the only cricketer to have won the 'Player of the Match' in a Final and the 'Player of the Tournament' in two different tournaments?
3. Which two teams played the first-ever game in T20 World Cup history?

Scan the code, to participate in the quiz and win exciting gift vouchers

Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. RP Singh
2. Marlon Samuels
3. Darren Sammy

INBRIEF

Remove Salman's name from custody death plea, says HC

The Bombay High Court on Monday ordered the petitioner to remove actor Salman Khan's name as respondent in a plea seeking a CBI probe into an alleged custodial death. The man who died in custody was accused of involvement in a case filed over two men opening fire outside the actor's house. A Division Bench of Justice Revati Mohite-Dere and Justice Shyam Chandak directed Rita Devi, the petitioner in the case, to remove the actor's name from the petition. Ms. Devi is the mother of Anuj Thapan, the person who allegedly died in police custody on May 1. Mr. Thapan's body was found inside the toilet of the crime branch police lock-up.

1 injured in explosion at illegal firecracker factory in Bengal

An explosion in an illegal firecracker manufacturing unit in Payag village in West Bengal's Purba Medinipur district on Sunday night left one person severely injured and damaged around five houses in the area. The blast took place around 10.30 p.m. on Sunday. Police personnel and two firefighting units rushed to the spot and with much effort, brought the fire under control. According to the police, the house that accommodated the firecracker factory belonged to one Ananda Maity. The people living in the factory's vicinity fled the area the next morning. Locals claimed that multiple houses in the area were engaged in the manufacture of firecrackers without acquiring the proper licence.

Rifts in Bengal BJP intensify as Malviya sues RSS worker

BJP IT cell in-charge seeks ₹10 crore as compensation from Santanu Sinha, who accused Malviya of sexual exploitation of women; the allegations evoked strong reactions from across the country

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Facing a setback in West Bengal in the recently concluded Lok Sabha election, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) State unit is going through a phase of intense factionalism, with the head of the party's IT cell and State joint in-charge, Amit Malviya, sending a legal notice to a Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) leader, seeking an apology and ₹10 crore as damages.

Cheering for Modi: BJP supporters celebrate at Balurghat before the swearing-in of Narendra Modi as PM on Sunday. PTI

The allegations

Santanu Sinha had posted on social media that Mr. Malviya "indulged" in sexual exploitation of women.

"The nature of allegations is extremely offensive in as much as they falsely allege sexual misconduct purportedly committed by my client. The same is fatally injurious to the dignity and reputation of my client who, by virtue of his professional profile, is a public figure," the notice issued by Mr. Malviya's lawyer alleged.

Strong reactions

The development evoked strong reactions, not only in West Bengal but also across the country. Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate raised the issue at a press conference on Monday.

Mr. Sinha was no ordinary person, Ms. Shrinate said, as he was an RSS activist whose views should be taken seriously. Ms. Shrinate demanded that Mr. Malviya be sacked and an independent inquiry be conducted into the allegations.

The West Bengal BJP leadership, however, has thrown its weight behind Mr. Malviya.

"The personal, political and social integrity of Amit Malviya is beyond question," West Bengal BJP spokesperson Shamik Bhattacharya said. Mr. Bhattacharya, who is also a Rajya Sabha member, said that people might have differences with Mr. Malviya's style of working, but it was wrong to question his personal integrity.

Schisms in BJP

The Trinamool Congress leadership has also not lost the opportunity to highlight factionalism within the West Bengal unit of the BJP.

"There are so many factions in the BJP – old faction versus new faction, Dilip faction versus Suvendu faction," Trinamool spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said.

It's not only allegations against Mr. Malviya that are exposing schisms within the West Bengal BJP, which was able to win 12 of the 42 Lok Sabha seats in West Bengal, whereas the Trinamool bagged 29 seats.

Former West Bengal BJP president Dilip Ghosh, who lost from Bardhaman-Durgapur to the Trinamool's Kirti Azad, has been regularly blaming "backbiting" and the decision to change his Lok Sabha constituency for his defeat.

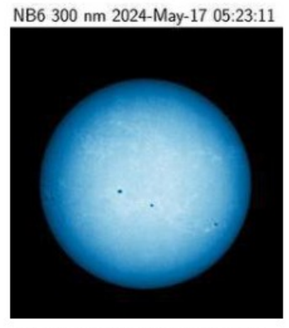
Suvendu Adhikari moves HC over post-poll violence

KOLKATA

Amid incidents of electoral violence continuing in West Bengal almost 10 days after the polls, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Suvendu Adhikari on Monday moved the Calcutta High Court on the issue. A Division Bench of Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam and Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharyya said the court would take up the petition for hearing on Wednesday.

ISRO releases images of sun captured by Aditya-L1 during May

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU



An image of the sun captured by Aditya-L1 in May. PTI

Two of the remote sensing payloads aboard India's maiden solar mission, Aditya-L1, have captured images of the sun and its dynamic activities during the solar storm, which occurred in May.

Between May 8 and 15, several X-class and M-class flares erupted in the active region AR13664 on the sun. This was associated with coronal mass ejections (CMEs) during May 8 and 9.

The ISRO said that during these eruptive events, two remote sensing instruments, Solar Ultra Violet Imaging Telescope (SUIT) and Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC), were in baking and calibration modes, respectively, and could not observe the event during May 10 and 11. However, SUIT and VELC doors were opened on May 14.

Apart from capturing images, these payloads have made important observations.

On June 10, the ISRO released six images of the sun taken by the SUIT payload at different wavelengths. The images were acquired by the payload on May 17.

According to the ISRO, these images will help in studying solar flares, energy distribution and sun spots, understanding and predicting space weather, and monitoring solar activity and UV radiation over a wide wavelength range, and also aid in the study of long-term solar variations. In addition, the VELC payload also carried out observations in one of the spectroscopic channels for the emission line 5303 Angstrom.

Raster scans of the solar corona were carried out on May 14 to capture the coronal activities in this particular spectral line.

Two other remote sensing payloads, SoLEXS and HELIOS, captured these events between May 8 and 9.

The two in-situ payloads, ASPEX and MAG, captured this event on May 10 and 11 during its passage through the sun-earth L1 point (L1).

Chhattisgarh 'lynching': victims' kin demand justice and compensation

Anuj Kumar
GHAZIABAD

Two villages in western Uttar Pradesh are demanding justice and compensation for the three cattle transporters who were allegedly attacked by cow vigilantes in Raipur district of Chhattisgarh last Friday.

While Guddu Khan, 42, from Banat village in Shamli district, and Chand Miyan, 22, of Lakhnoti were allegedly lynched, Chand's neighbour Saddam, 18, was seriously injured.

Local people said Chand, who was driving the vehicle, married five months ago and had left the village a fortnight ago for Raipur along with Mr. Saddam where they had been working as cattle transporters for a few years.

Residents of Lakhnoti surround the ambulance carrying the body of Chand Miyan on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"No government official has come to the village to share our grief and give us confidence," Mohammed Abbas, Pradhan of Lakhnoti village, told *The Hindu*.

"Even if our children did something wrong, no one had the right to attack them with the purpose of taking their lives," said Mohammed Rashid, uncle of Mr. Saddam who also works as a cattle transporter. "We are waiting for Saddam to come out of a coma and give a statement to the police."

Shafiq Ahmad, who described Chand as his grandson, said no part of his body was intact when it reached them on Saturday for burial. "There were multiple fractures and marks of sharp and blunt weapons all over the body," he said. With no source of income and five daughters and two sons to look after, Mr. Ahmad said the family is seeking justice from the Prime Minister.

Gangoh is part of the Kairana Lok Sabha constituency from where Iqra Hasan of the Samajwadi Party has made it to Parliament. Mr. Abbas said the MP had yet to take note of the incident, but former Saharanpur MP Haji Fazlur Rahman, who runs a meat export business, visited the village.

He has written to the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister citing the directions given by the Supreme Court on the rise in number of lynching cases in 2017. He has demanded compensation for the affected families.

Satnamis protest desecration, set fire to SP office in Chhattisgarh

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

A huge mob from the Satnami community torched dozens of vehicles, pelted police personnel with stones and set fire to the Superintendent of Police (SP) office building in Baloda Bazar district of Chhattisgarh on Monday.

The protesters were not satisfied with the police's handling of a case involving the desecration of a *jaitkhamb*, a structure of sacred importance to the Satnamis, in Giraudpuri village last month.

Demanding a CBI probe, a huge gathering marched towards the Collectorate compound, which also houses the SP office and other government offices, around 3.30 p.m. While the police had prior information of a group representing the community submitting a memorandum, the crowd kept swelling and the protests intensified before violence broke out.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai with Deputy CMs Arun Sao and Vijay Sharma during a press conference. PTI

On the intervening night of May 15-16, unidentified persons vandalised the *jaitkhamb* near the Amar Gufa in Giraudpuri Dham in Baloda Bazar. Giraudpuri is the birthplace of Guru Ghasidas, a 19th century saint considered to be the founder of the Satnami sect in Chhattisgarh.

While the police had made arrests, the community has called for a wider investigation.

On the demand of various organisations and representatives of the Satnami community, Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma, who holds the Home portfolio, ordered a judicial inquiry on June 10. However, the protesters went ahead with the agitation for a CBI inquiry.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai appealed for calm.

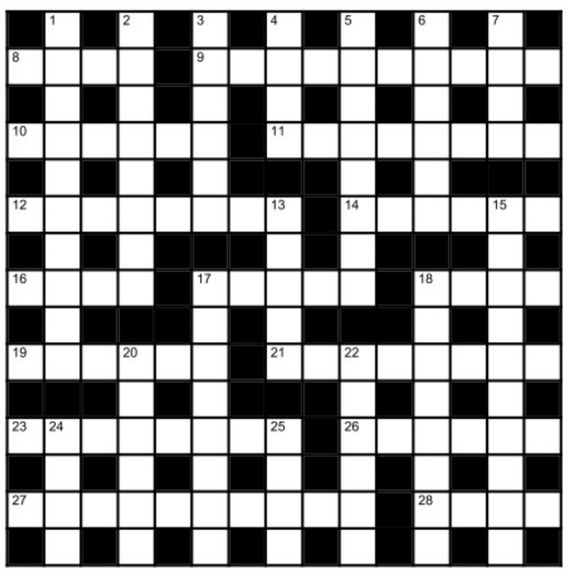
"On the unpleasant situation that arose in Baloda Bazar district, the IG and Commissioner have been instructed to immediately reach the spot. The Chief Secretary and DGP have been summoned and preliminary information about the incident has been taken and a report of the incident has also been sought. It should be noted that Home Minister Shri Vijay Sharma had already been directed to conduct a judicial inquiry into the Amar Gufa case of Girodpuri, which was announced by him. Instructions have been given to take strict action against those who spoil social harmony and an appeal has been made to everyone to maintain peace and harmony," he wrote on X.

TH CROSSWORD + 14198

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Money used in Lancashire (4)
9 Said, "Sorry! A game... Golf... is followed by journalist?" (10)
10 Country gun thrown around midday by law-man (6)
11 City lass gave erroneously (3,5)
12 Secluded ladies to tour (8)
14 Parents consuming sodium in country (6)
16 Criticises cooking vessels (4)
17 Revealed bread mix (5)
18 Crosswords, in short, from Indian on Rhode Island (1,1,1,1)
19 Guard southern entrance (6)
21 Wrongly chase the fastest animals on land (8)
23 Dare to have English statute in American state (8)
26 Odd tail-less fish dances (6)
27 A crore in America move in no time around centre of Dallas (3,7)
28 Dirty? Not right! Arrange to make neat! (4)

Down

1 Mass from last drop of oil left inside dismantled gear-case (5-5)
2 Sprinkling less hing can result in disease (8)
3 Empty container kept in another container (6)
4 Bird... initially foolish bird (4)
5 A moped travels around American Tom's residence? (8)
6 Animal, with time, becomes bird (6)
7 Type of cheese rejected in platefuls (4)
13 In Colorado, rich people have this type of architecture (5)
15 Spoils part of heath with large and small swamps (10)
17 Barley ground using electric current at end of July or every 6 or 24 months (8)
18 Private note received by resident (8)
20 Vehicle going around university area gives shock (6)
22 Decapitating fish and making a mistake (6)
24 Retiring gamekeeper carries weapon (4)
25 Ruler from Middle East rejected one road (4)

SUDOKU

	5			7	4	8		
	6			8		7		
	1		3					
1				4	7	5		3
	4						1	
8		6	5	3				9
					3		9	
		9		5			7	
		7	9	1			5	

No.SS6186 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	2	3	8	5	1	6	4	7
4	7	8	6	3	2	5	9	1
6	5	1	7	9	4	3	2	8
5	6	4	1	8	3	2	7	9
1	8	7	9	2	6	4	3	5
2	3	9	4	7	5	8	1	6
7	4	6	3	1	8	9	5	2
8	9	2	5	4	7	1	6	3
3	1	5	2	6	9	7	8	4

FAITH

Four types of people

Arjuna asked Lord Krishna why all people do not take refuge in Him. Valayapettai Sri Ramachariar said the reply of the Lord was narrated in Chapter VII Sloka 15. Those who commit evil deeds will not seek asylum in Him.

They are classified into four types. The foolish – who have yet to learn from a proper perspective and have a misconception that the self is dependent and that all they enjoy are their own; the lowest of men (*Naradhama*) – are those who lack clarity despite learning sastras; Persons deprived of knowledge by delusion (*Maya*); and those of demoniac nature: who have knowledge about Him and His divine manifestation but who hate Him.

In the next sloka, the Lord again says there are four types of people who do good deeds and worship Him (*Chaturvidha: Bhajanthe maam*). Who wishes to regain the wealth lost (*Aarthi*); Who yearns for the wealth he has yet to obtain (*Artharthi*); The seeker of knowledge (*Jignasu:*); and Man of knowledge who knows the essential nature of the self and whose cherished desire is to attain the Lord and who thinks the Lord alone is the highest (*Jnani*).

The Lord says Jnanis are like charitable persons (*Udhara:*). Because they change the Lord magnanimously to make Him give what they aspire for –*moksha*. (*Udhara: sarva evaithe*) Chapter VII sloka 18.

INBRIEF

PV sales dipped 1% YoY in May on impact of heat, polls: FADA

The passenger vehicle (PV) segment declined 1% year on year (YoY) in May due to the impact of elections, extreme heat and market liquidity issues, the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) said. "Despite better supply, some pending bookings and discount schemes, the lack of new models, intense competition and poor marketing efforts by OEMs affected sales," FADA president Manish Raj Singhania said in a statement.

Centre retains GPF interest rate for current quarter at 7.1%

The Centre has retained the interest rate on General Provident Fund (GPF) savings and other government retirement funds at 7.1% for the ongoing April to June quarter, as per a Finance Ministry notification issued on Monday. This marks the 17th successive quarter that the rates paid out on government employees' retirement savings have been left unchanged. The GPF rate was last tweaked in the first quarter of 2020-21, when it was slashed from 7.9% to 7.1%.

Paytm lays off employees as part of restructuring

Fintech firm One97 Communications, owner of Paytm brand, is laying off an undisclosed number of employees and claimed that it is providing outplacement support for their smooth transition, according to a company statement. Paytm's sales employee headcount in March 2024 quarter dropped by about 3,500 to 36,521 personnel on a quarter-on-quarter basis, mainly due to the impact of the Reserve Bank of India's ban on services of Paytm Payments Bank. PTI

MF equity inflows hit new high as investors cash in on volatility

Inflows rose 83% in May to ₹34,697 crore from ₹18,917 crore in April; net inflow at ₹34,697 crore surpassed ₹30,000-crore mark for the first time

Suresh P. Iyengar
MUMBAI

Money matters: SIPs continue to attract higher inflows even as overall household savings fell to 5.4% last fiscal. BIJOY GHOSH

Inflows into the equity schemes of mutual funds increased 83% last month to ₹34,697 crore compared with ₹18,917 crore in April as investors used the volatility in the equity market to pump in more money.

Interestingly, the net inflow into equity mutual funds hit a new high at ₹34,697 crore and surpassed the ₹30,000-crore mark for the first time.

Moreover, the thematic HDFC Manufacturing Fund collected ₹9,563 crore through NFO last month.

Overall, thematic funds received ₹19,213 crore (₹5,166 crore). Small and mid-cap schemes attracted maximum flows of ₹2,724 crore (₹2,208 crore) and ₹2,605 crore (₹1,793 crore).

SIP contribution

Gross SIP contribution rose by 3% to ₹20,904 crore (₹20,371 crore), while net SIP contribution jumped 7% to ₹9,226 crore (₹8,660 crore). Venkat Chalasani, CEO, Association of Mutual Funds in India, said SIPs continued to attract higher inflows even as overall household savings had fallen to 5.4% last fiscal from 7.6% in FY23.

"The industry is working with the service provider to ensure that all payments received before 3PM get the same-day NAV following complaints received from investors about the June 4 glitch," he said. Overall, MF assets under management surged further to ₹58.91 lakh crore (₹57.26 lakh crore) in May.

Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director, Morningstar Investment Research said the intermittent fall in equity valuations provided investors with a buying opportunity in a market that had largely witnessed a secular uptrend for a long time.

Mid, small-caps

Investors continued to invest in mid- and small-cap funds, which could give exceptionally high returns in rising markets, but they could also fall equally hard in a bearish market, he added. Madhu Nair, CEO, Union Mutual Fund, said equity-oriented schemes had crossed ₹25-lakh crore AUM for the first time as a result of strong net flows.

'Good opportunity'

"The equity markets currently offer a good opportunity to invest, and we urge investors to stay invested in participating in the nation's wealth creation while keeping their self-risk appetite in mind," he said.

Viraj Gandhi, CEO, SAMCO Mutual Fund said the AUM of mid-caps at ₹3.28-lakh crore for the first time surpassed ₹3.23 lakh crore of large caps, and this showed investors' confidence. Ashwini Kumar, Head of Market Data at ICRA Analytics said while the market remained choppy last month, macroeconomic stability and policy continuity were expected to augur well for the mutual fund industry moving forward.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

Life insurers' new business premium rose 15% in May

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Life insurers reported a more than 15% increase year-on-year in new business premium (NBP) to ₹27,034.15 crore for May amid demand from individuals and corporates.

State-owned LIC led with a 19% increase in NBP to ₹16,690.39 crore. Total NBP of private players rose 9.78% to ₹10,343.75 crore even as at least seven of the companies reported a decline in the mobilisation.

For the first two months of fiscal, life insurers posted a more-than 31% rise in NBP to ₹47,293 crore. LIC was ahead with NBP for April and May 46.35% higher at ₹29,074.03 crore, while for private players the increase was 12.62% at ₹18,218.98 crore.

In its reaction, the Life Insurance Council said May's performance was "buoyed by robust demand for enhanced insurance protection from individual and corporate consumers."

New policy issuances, too, rose 12.45% on a y-o-y basis in May, resulting in the addition of 18,68,096 policies on demand for enhanced insurance protection from individual consumers. Life insurers added 1,30,000 individual life insurance agents.

Gigafactory battery pack unit at Amara Raja set to go live

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

A 1.5 GWh battery pack assembly unit, part of the ₹9,500 crore investment Amara Raja Group committed over 10 years in a lithium-ion cell gigafactory near here, is set to get into commercial production within two months.

It will be the first phase of the 5 GWh battery pack assembly unit and likely to be inaugurated in the next one or two months, Amara Raja Advanced Cell Technologies Chief Technology Officer M. Jagadish said.

The Group had, in December 2022, announced plans to set up a 16 GWh lithium-ion cell manufacturing as well as battery pack assembly unit in Mahabubnagar, near here.

With production of the lithium-ion cell likely to commence around October 2026, the firm will import the cells and assemble batteries for supply to EV firms, said COO Niranjan C.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	76,490	-0.27
US Dollar	83.50	-0.11
Gold	71,800	-2.51
Brent oil	81.26	—

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3220.10	0.55
Adani Ports	1384.05	5.20
Apollo Hosp	6056.70	42.15
Asian Paints	2937.55	9.85
Axis Bank	1200.00	13.20
Bajaj Auto	9733.05	7.50
Bajaj Finserv	1565.80	-1.90
Bajaj Finance	7088.85	-102.55
Bharti Airtel	1426.05	0.80
BPCL	602.60	2.80
Britannia Ind	5488.40	24.85
Cipla	1534.25	37.00
Coal India	477.70	-1.45
Divis Lab	4536.25	12.20
Dr Reddys Lab	6106.15	44.85
Eicher Motors	4782.75	20.75
Grasim Ind	2446.80	66.95
HCL Tech	1418.75	-12.75
HDFC Bank	1561.30	-12.05
HDFC Life	569.20	6.25
Hero MotoCorp	5722.20	140.35
Hindalco	676.40	-3.95
Hind Unilever	2565.35	-12.45
ICICI Bank	1123.80	2.10
IndusInd Bank	1485.85	-6.25
Infosys	1499.75	-33.85
ITC	436.90	-2.25
JSW Steel	915.90	3.75
Kotak Bank	1745.65	-8.05
L&T	3543.75	11.25
LTIMindtree Ltd.	4903.45	-73.75
M&M	2807.55	-49.90
Maruti Suzuki	12717.55	-93.35
NestleIndia	2548.20	45.75
NTPC	364.90	4.30
ONGC	259.15	-1.25
PowerGrid Corp	315.80	6.45
Reliance Ind	2942.80	2.90
SBI Life	1432.30	6.45
State Bank	831.80	1.85
Shriram Finance Ltd.	2519.10	21.15
Sun Pharma	1513.10	6.25
TataConsumerProduct	1133.05	-2.60
Tata Motors	975.15	4.65
Tata Steel	180.29	1.39
TCS	3858.70	-35.25
Tech Mahindra	1340.35	-37.25
Titan	3422.20	-21.85
UltraTech Cement	10826.25	363.10
Wipro	475.25	-9.30

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 10

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.31	83.63
Euro	89.43	89.77
British Pound	105.75	106.16
Japanese Yen (100)	53.11	53.32
Chinese Yuan	11.49	11.54
Swiss Franc	92.89	93.25
Singapore Dollar	61.54	61.78
Canadian Dollar	60.47	60.70
Malaysian Ringitt	17.63	17.71
Australian Dollar	54.88	55.09

Source:Indian Bank

Medical lasers market is growing rapidly in India as access increases: Alma

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

> Access to aesthetics is showcased in Alma's R&D process as we are investing in innovative approaches to enable treatment for a diverse range of skin types, even the most complicated ones, to enable aesthetics for all
>
> **ALON TZIONIT**
> President, Alma India Pvt. Ltd.

Alma Medical Private Limited, (Alma) the Indian subsidiary of the Israeli manufacturer that's among global innovators in lasers for medical, light-based, radio frequency, and ultrasound solutions in the aesthetic, surgical and beauty markets, is expanding further into Asia, where it already has a strong presence in India, China, Korea and Japan, apart from Australia.

The Indian medical lasers market, including in aesthetics, which was valued at ₹715.72 million in FY2023, is expected to increase to ₹1,835.08 million in FY2031, with a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 12.49% for the forecast period, according to industry estimates.

Accessible treatment

Alma's laser platforms, which have been selling in India since 2007, are seen as strong brands. The company credits itself with having changed millions of lives worldwide in more than 25 years with its clinically proven applications. "Access to aesthetics is showcased in Alma's research and development process as we are investing in innovative approaches to enable treatment for a diverse range of skin types, even the most complicated ones, to enable aesthetics for all," Alon Tzionit, President, Alma India Pvt. Ltd. told *The Hindu*.

With laser treatment now more accessible than ever before, as cost was hitherto a factor that limited access, the Indian market for laser treatments is expanding along with rise in the country's Gross Domestic Product. Alma too has been able to expand at speed, and reach tier two cities, he added.

Gold standard

Alma's Soprano Titanium is regarded as a 'gold standard' in the business-to-business, business-to-consumer and consumer-to-business laser hair removal market in India. "Indian doctors are seeking to give their patients the best aesthetic outcome that the patients can visually see on themselves, and they are choosing Alma platforms to make it possible. Due to doctors' preferences and its strong brands, Alma has been able to reach tier two and tier three cities in India," Mr. Tzionit said.

The range of services covered internationally by Alma includes injectables, skincare, aesthetics, digital dentistry, and home-use devices. Given India's diversity, the company has lined up a range of products to be rolled-out in the near future. "We will be expanding our product portfolio in the next two years in India with a few more platforms, injectables, and skincare and innovative protocols," Mr. Tzionit said.

'Price sensitive market'

When asked what unique challenges the Indian market presented, and whether the company would be launching products tailor-made for Southeast Asia as well, Mr. Tzionit said India is still a price sensitive market. "Alma will expand customer base and is open to new opportunities, including in the dental market. The synergy between unique product capabilities and cutting-edge technologies makes Alma one of the top three medical aesthetics company worldwide," he added.

Growing market

The Indian medical devices market is estimated at more than $11 billion and is expected to grow to $50 billion by 2025, a rise of 354% and the sector has been growing steadily at a CAGR of 15% over the last three years according to Invest India, a government organization.

Shriram Life declares ₹201 cr. bonus for FY24

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Shriram Life Insurance has declared ₹201 crore bonus, a payout that will benefit 3.86 lakh policyholders who hold various participating plans of the insurer.

Compared with the ₹149 crore for 2022-23, the bonus is 35% more and came on the back of robust growth in premium income that in turn was driven by diversification of sales during FY24, the company said on Monday.

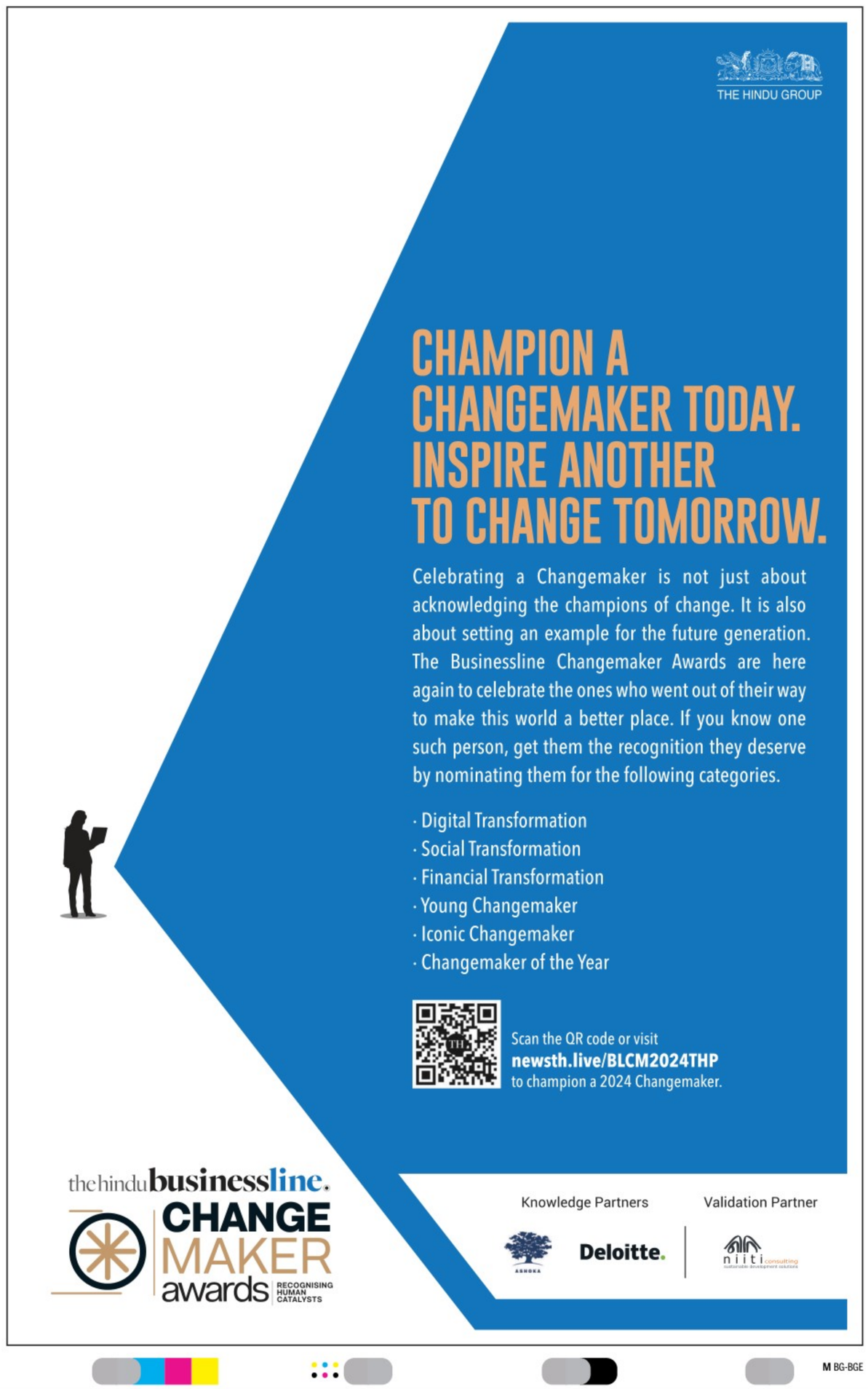
We believe this growth must be shared with our customers, who are the fulcrum of our growth story," said MD and CEO Casparus J.H. Kromhout.

Coromandel International opens nano fertilizer plant

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Agri-solutions provider Coromandel International has forayed into new-generation fertilizers by commissioning a ₹50 crore nano-fertilizer plant at its Kakinada complex in Andhra Pradesh.

The new plant has a capacity to produce one crore bottles of nano fertilizers. It can be scaled up for higher volumes and produce a range of nano fertilizers, Coromandel Executive Director, Nutrient Business, S. Sankarasubramanian said after inaugurating the Kakinada facility on June 9.



MOSCOW

Russian troops claim capture of village in southeastern Ukraine

AP

Russia on Monday claimed the capture of a village in the south of the eastern Donetsk region. The Defence Ministry said its troops "continued to advance into the depths of the enemy's defence and liberated Staromaiorskoye" (Staromaiorske in Ukrainian), located southwest of the Russian-held city of Donetsk. AFP

BLANTYRE

Military plane carrying Malawi's Vice-President goes missing

AP

A military plane carrying Malawi's Vice-President and nine others went missing on Monday and a search is under way. The plane carrying 51-year-old Saulos Chilima left the nation's capital, Lilongwe, at 9.17 a.m. but failed to land as scheduled around 45 minutes later at Mzuzu Airport, about 370 km to the north. AP

TOKYO

Tighter rules for deporting failed asylum seekers take effect in Japan

AFP

Japanese laws making it easier for the country to deport failed asylum seekers took effect on Monday. The world's fourth largest economy has long been criticised for the low number of asylum applications it accepts. Last year refugee status was granted to a record 303 people, mostly from Afghanistan. AFP

GOMA

Militants aligned to Islamic State kill dozens in eastern Congo

REUTERS

Militants allied with the IS group in eastern Congo killed at least 41 people in North Kivu province, the national government said on Monday, as residents wondered why security forces were not protecting them. The attacks were carried out by Allied Democratic Forces militants in the villages of Masala, Mahihi and Keme. AFP

N. Korea sends more balloons as Kim's sister issues warning

Agence France-Presse
SEOUL

North Korea has sent hundreds more trash-carrying balloons toward South Korea, Seoul's military said on Monday, after Kim Jong-un's powerful sister warned of further responses if the South keeps up its "psychological warfare".

Mr. Kim's sister Kim Yo Jong said South Korea would "suffer a bitter embarrassment of picking up waste paper without rest and it will be its daily work".

She slammed the Pyongyang activists' leaflets as "psychological warfare" and warned that unless Seoul stopped them and called off the loudspeaker broadcasts, the North would hit back.

Blinken in West Asia to push for Gaza ceasefire as Israeli troops advance

Both Israel and Hamas doubled down on hardline positions that have scuppered all previous attempts to end the fighting in Gaza Strip; Prime Minister Netanyahu says not ready to stop the war without achieving the goal of 'eliminating' Hamas

Reuters
CAIRO

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken arrived in West Asia on Monday hoping to deliver the ceasefire that President Joe Biden proposed last month, in an all-out push by Washington to secure an end to the Gaza war.

Meeting with Sisi

The top U.S. diplomat met Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi in Cairo and was due to meet Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his defence chief in Israel later in the day.

Ahead of his trip, Israel and Hamas both doubled down on hardline positions that have scuppered all previous attempts to end the fighting, while Israel has pressed on with assaults in central and southern Gaza, among the bloodiest of the war.

Tough choices: Antony Blinken speaks to reporters at the Cairo airport after meeting the Egyptian President on Monday. AFP

"We are committed to total victory," Mr. Netanyahu said in a statement released by his office, quoting remarks he made on Sunday to relatives of Israelis killed in Gaza.

"What is the main dispute? It is over Hamas' demand ... that we commit to stopping the war without achieving our goals of eliminating Hamas.... I am not prepared to do so."

Hamas's message

Hamas, for its part, said Washington must push its ally Israel to halt the fighting.

"We call upon the U.S. administration to put pressure on the occupation to stop the war on Gaza, and the Hamas movement is ready to deal positively with any initiative that secures an end to the war," senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri said ahead of Mr. Blinken's arrival.

Ninth month of war

The war has now entered its ninth month, since Hamas-led fighters killed 1,200 people and took some 250 others hostage in a rampage through southern Israel. In response, Israel launched an assault on the Gaza Strip that has killed more than 37,000 Palestinians and reduced most of the enclave to wasteland.

Palestinian officials said 40 more bodies arrived in hospitals over the past 24 hours. Thousands more dead are believed buried under rubble.

Macron calls snap legislative election, after far-right gains

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

Emmanuel Macron

French President Emmanuel Macron dissolved the country's National Assembly and ordered fresh polls following gains France's far right made in the European Parliamentary elections. The centre-right President's Renaissance party and its allies suffered heavy loses in the European Parliamentary elections, winning a provisional 15.2% of the vote for French seats, against the far right Rassemblement National's (RN) provisional 31.5%. Far right parties together won 40% of the available seats.

Mr. Macron, who has three years left in office and cannot seek a third term, said he had heard the people's concerns and would answer them, noting that he was not in the race for the presidency in 2027. Elections will be held on June 30 with a run-off round on July 7.

"France needs a clear majority to act in serenity and harmony," Mr. Macron said in a video address as he announced the move, which is a huge gamble for him. Currently, Mr. Macron's party, which has 169 members in the 577-seat lower legislative chamber or National Assembly, governs as part of a centrist coalition of 249. RN has 88 seats.

"Demagogues and nationalists on the rise is bad for our nation, it's bad for Europe, and it is bad for the place of France in Europe and in the world," he said. The pro-Europe President said he could not act like "nothing had happened" [in the European elections] and that there was a "feverish tone" to the national discourse in recent times.

Some French politicians welcomed Mr. Macron's decision, while others were dismayed, and many were surprised. RN's parliamentary leader Marine Le Pen welcomed Mr. Macron's decision and said her party would take power if the French voted for them.

The stock market in Paris fell at opening on Monday morning, with the CAC 40 index dropping 2.4%.

"This is a very dangerous game to play with democracy and the institutions. I am flabbergasted," Raphaël Glucksmann, a politician from the Socialst Party said, as per news agency *Reuters*.

Ms. Le Pen's deputy, Jordan Bardella, a 28-year-old with over a million TikTok followers, has been tapped by Ms. Le Pen to be Prime Minister if RN wins the Assembly elections. Part of his role is to try and move the party away from its racist, anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic roots under Ms. Le Pen's father, Jean-Marie Le Pen. Yet, Mr. Bardella, whose mother comes from Italy, continues to warn that French culture is under attack as it is being "submerged" by migrants.

Australia PM calls for calm after attack on U.S. consulate office

Associated Press
SYDNEY

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese urged activists on both sides of the Israel-Palestinian debate to "turn the heat down" after the U.S. Consulate in Sydney was vandalised on Monday.

Smashing holes

Surveillance video showed a person wearing a dark hoodie using a small sledgehammer to smash nine holes in the reinforced glass windows of the building in North Sydney after 3 a.m., a police statement said.

Two inverted red triangles, seen by some as a symbol of Palestinian resistance but by others as supporting Hamas, were also painted on the front of the building.

"I just reiterate my call to turn the heat down and measures such as painting the U.S. consulate do nothing to advance the cause of those who have committed what is, of course, a crime to damage property," Mr. Albanese told reporters.

India welcomes Egypt, Iran, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia joining BRICS

Press Trust of India
MOSCOW

India on Monday welcomed Egypt, Iran, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia joining the BRICS as their representatives attended for the first time a key meeting of the grouping hosted by Russia.

Senior diplomat Dammu Ravi led the Indian delegation at the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nizhny Novgorod, in western Russia.

"A significant meeting in the format of expanded BRICS family. India wholeheartedly welcomes the new membership," the spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs Randhir Jaiswal said.

United front: India's BRICS Sherpa Dammu Ravi, left and Foreign Ministers of member countries at the meeting in Russia. REUTERS

The meeting on Monday was the first ministerial meeting following BRICS expansion in 2023 when Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE joined Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa as full-fledged BRICS members.

Ravi, Secretary (Economic Relations) in MEA, led the Indian delegation at the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nizhny Novgorod, it said.

The ministers reiterated their commitment to multilateralism and upholding the international law. They voiced their support for a comprehensive reform of the UN, including its Security Council, with a view to making it more democratic, representative, effective and efficient.

Sport

Divya beats Kseniya, retains sole lead

WORLD JUNIOR CHESS

P.K. Ajith Kumar
GANDHINAGAR

After dropping half-a-point to a much lower-rated opponent in the previous round, Divya Deshmukh resumed normal service on Monday.

The top seed cruised to a 36-move win to retain her sole lead at the end of the eighth round of the World junior girls' chess championship at the Gift City Club. Divya, whose Russian opponent Kseniya Norman made too many mistakes after opening with King's Indian Defence, is on seven points. She is followed half-a-point behind by fellow-Indian Rakshitta Ravi and Armenia's Mariam Mkrtchyan.

Crucial: Cardoso stunned third seed Pranav. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

While Divya has justified her top billing, it has been a different story for the No. 1 player in the open section, Abhimanyu Mishra. The Indian-origin player from the United States has had a terrible tournament having lost two games (24 Elo points) and has withdrawn because he is unwell.

There is a four-way at the top with Kazybek Nogerbek of Kazakhstan, Russian Rudik Makarian, Mamikon Gharibyan of Armenia, and Colombia's Jose Gabriel Cardoso – who accounted for the third seed Pranav Anand – on 6.5 points.

Important results (eighth round): Open: Aleksey Grebnev (FIDE) 6 drew with Kazybek Nogerbek (Kaz) 6.5; Jose Gabriel Cardoso (Col) 6.5 bt Pranav Anand 5.5; Rudik Makarian (FIDE) 6.5 bt Luka Budisavljevic (Srb) 5.5; Mamikon Gharibyan (Arm) 6.5 bt Emin Ohanyan (Arm) 5.5; Samant Aditya 5.5 drew with Daniel Quizon 6; L.M.S.T. De Silva (SL) 5.5 drew with Tobias Koelle (Ger) 5.5; Mayank Chakraborty 5.5 drew with Ethan Vaz 5.5; Artion Stribuk 6 bt Sambit Panda 5; Gleb Dudin (Hun) Anuj Shrivatri; Vuppala Praneeth 5 drew with Siddharth Jagadeesh (Sgp) 5. **Girls:** Divya Deshmukh 7 bt Kseniya Norman (FIDE) 5.5; Narmin Abdinova (Aze) 5.5 lost to Mariam Mkrtchyan (Arm) 6.5; Ayalum Kaladorva (Kaz) 5.5 lost to Rakshitta Ravi 6.5; Beloslava Krasteva (Bul) 6 bt Sneha Halder 5; Xeniya Balabayeva (Kaz) 5.5 drew with Swara Lakshmi Nair 5.5; Meryem Agajanova (Tkm) 5 lost to Sofia Hryzlova (Sui) 6; Anna Zhurova (FIDE) 5 lost to V. Rindhiya 6; Martyna Wikar (Pol) 5.5 bt Dakshita Kumawat 4.5; Ayan Allahverdiyeva (Aze) 5.5 bt Arshiya Das 4.

Gulveer breaks Sable's 5000m National record

ATHLETICS

Sports Bureau

Gulveer Singh broke Asian Games silver medallist Avinash Sable's 5000m National record while finishing second in the Portland Track Festival in Oregon on Sunday.

Gulveer, an Asian bronze medallist, clocked 13:18.92s (Sable's old record 13:19.30). Kartik Kumar took the 17th spot in 13:41.07. Abhishek Pal clocked a personal best of 13:41.57s while finishing third in the 5000m high-performance race.

Nagal attains 77th rank; set to represent India in Paris Games

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Sumit Nagal climbed 18 places to a career-best 77th in the latest ATP rankings issued on Monday, all but sealing a spot in the Paris Olympics men's singles draw.

Nagal has 713 ATP points. The improvement in his rankings was due to Nagal bagging the men's singles crown at the Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 Challenger event in Germany on Sunday, beating Switzerland's Alexander Ritschard in a three-set thriller.

The Indian won 6-1, 6-7 (5), 6-3 in the final that lasted two hours and 22 minutes. Rankings, as on Monday, will be the basis for deciding entries for the Games.

Primed: Nagal looks good to secure the last available ranking-enabled spot in the Olympics draw. FILE PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

As per the established criteria, the top 56 players, both in men's and women's rankings, will attain automatic qualification for the Olympics but no more than four per country can make the cut for the Games, a rule which allows lower ranked players to sneak into the draw.

Nagal looks good to secure the last available ranking-enabled spot in the draw. The last time India had a player in the Olympics main draw was the 2012 Games when Somdev Devvarman made it thanks to a wildcard.

FIGHTER

Heart-warming to see Pant back in his element, says Shastri

K.R. DEEPAK

Ravi Shastri revealed that the news of Rishabh Pant's car accident had left him in tears. "I had tears in my eyes when I read about his accident. And when I saw him in hospital, it was even worse. And then for him to be back in the A-zone playing one of the biggest games of all time is heart-warming," Shastri told BCCI.

VISA GRANTED

Nepal's Lamichhane to join T20 World Cup squad in West Indies

FILE PHOTO

Sandeep Lamichhane will join Nepal's T20 World Cup squad in the West Indies after missing matches in the United States because his visa was denied, the cricket association said on Monday. Nepal originally wanted to select Lamichhane, who had an eight-year sentence for rape quashed on appeal, but his US visa was denied.

ONE DEMERIT POINT

ICC reprimands Australia's Wade for showing dissent at the umpire

GETTY IMAGES

Australia wicketkeeper-batter Matthew Wade has been reprimanded by the ICC for "showing dissent at an umpire's decision" during his side's win over England in the T20 World Cup. One demerit point has also been added to Wade's disciplinary record, for whom it was the first offence in a 24-month period.

THUMPING WIN

McMullen's unbeaten fifty helps Scotland ease past Oman

AP

Scotland boosted its chances of qualifying for the second round of the T20 World Cup after thrashing Oman by seven wickets.
The scores: Oman 150/7 in 20 overs (Athavale 54, Ayaan 41 n.o., Safyaan 2/40) lost to Scotland 153/3 in 13.1 overs (Munsey 41, McMullen 61 n.o.); **Toss**: Oman; **PoM**: McMullen.

Oceans apart: Bumrah's searing spell takes Pakistan by storm

The ace pacer's 4-0-14-3 was the tipping point in India's nail-biting defence of a meagre 119 against the Men in Green; Babar's men looked on course for a win, but Rizwan's dismissal and a middle-order meltdown sealed their fate

T20 WORLD CUP

Ashwin Achal
NEW YORK

No bail! Bumrah ruthlessly punishes Rizwan's attempt to take him on. K.R. DEEPAK

Play out Jasprit Bumrah safely. Look for scoring options elsewhere. This is the game plan used by all teams – international or IPL – when facing the gun quick.

Pakistan must have intended to follow this fairly obvious logic too, except that Mohammad Rizwan did not get the memo. In the 15th over of the chase against India on Sunday, Rizwan went on the offensive against Bumrah, and the settled batter lost his stumps. It was all downhill for Pakistan from there.

Rizwan must have known the high risk involved, given Bumrah's spectacular recent form. The Gujarat speedster has made the perfect comeback from a back injury, which forced him out of action for nearly a year. The early signs of a full recovery came in the 2023 ODI World Cup, when Bumrah was among the standout performers with 20 wickets at an economy rate of 4.06.

By the time IPL 2024 came around, Bumrah was near unplayable. Mumbai Indians may have had a forgettable season, but Bumrah was in a different league.

The yorkers, cutters, bouncers, zip off the pitch - prime Bumrah was back. Two matches into the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, Bumrah leads the Indian charge with Player-of-the-Match performances in both outings. His 3-0-6-2 against Ireland was a sampler, while his 4-0-14-3 returns on Sunday was the main course.

Bumrah jolted Pakistan in the PowerPlay by removing captain Babar Azam with a sharp rising delivery, and finished the job in his second spell.

The 30-year-old is perhaps at the peak of his powers now, even if he is not one to bask in such praise. "A year ago, the same people were saying that I might not play again, and that my career is over. Now the question has changed," Bumrah said at the post-match press conference.

"I was trying to focus on what the best option is on a wicket like this. How do I make shot-making difficult? What are the best options for me? If I look at the outside noise, if pressure and emotion take over, then things don't work for me. I try to create my own bubble," Bumrah said.

The India fast bowler spoke on the importance of claiming the big wicket of Rizwan. "If that over had gone in Pakistan's favour, then the game would have also gone in their favour," Bumrah said.

To buck the trend on this New York pitch, where sides fielding first have an advantage, was particularly pleasing.

"When we were batting in the morning, there was a lot more help for the bowlers. When we bowled, the ball had stopped seaming and there wasn't a lot of lateral movement. We were very calm and very clear on what we had to do," Bumrah stated.

The plan was to bat as long as possible, reveals Axar Patel

Ashwin Achal
NEW YORK

On the seam-friendly pitches at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium, Axar Patel's left-arm spin plays second fiddle to the pacers.

Axar, however, has added great value as a batter. The southpaw, promoted to No. 4 in the Pakistan outing on Sunday, held the Indian innings together with an 18-ball 20.

Axar was tasked with negotiating the PowerPlay safely. If Axar could hang around long enough to take the sting out of the new ball, the likes of Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya and Shivam Dube to come would have it easier.

"Rohit (Sharma) *bhai* has been clear that the only batting spots which are fixed are those of the openers. Everything below that is flexible.

"I got a brief – I don't have to slog wildly. The plan was to bat as long as possible and make the new ball a bit older. This would make it easier for batters coming after me," Axar said in a media interaction here.

A 39-run third-wicket with Rishabh Pant proved to be crucial in the low-scoring affair. "The partnership with Rishabh was crucial. We got to a good position after 10 overs. We knew that batting second on this pitch would not be easy, so we remained positive even though we scored only 119," Axar said.

Axar. K.R. DEEPAK

The left-arm spinner has only bowled three overs in India's two matches.

However, the 30-year-old did make an impact, trapping Usman Khan leg-before off the first ball he bowled.

He later tightened the screws on Pakistan by conceding just two runs in the 16th over. Left-hander Imad Wasim, expected to have it easy against a left-arm spinner, ended up being beaten three times in a row.

"Some pressure built up because I bowled a tidy over. There is not much in the wicket for the spinners. I did not want to let them free their arms and go for big shots," Axar said.

We made some poor decisions, says Kirsten

Ashwin Achal
NEW YORK

Pakistan coach Gary Kirsten stated that "not so great decision making" contributed to his side's defeat to India in the Group-A T20 World Cup clash here on Sunday.

The batting unit came apart in the chase, after being well placed at 72 for two. With 48 needed from eight overs, Pakistan panicked and lost.

"Maybe not so great decision making," said Kirsten when asked to explain the loss. "Run a ball, eight wickets in hand – the decision making at that point... that's international cricket for you. You make mistakes like that, you are going to pay. I thought we made some poor decisions at important phases of the game," Kirsten said.

"We had that game for 35 of the 40 overs," added Kirsten, who took charge a couple of weeks ago.

After two losses in two games, Pakistan is on the brink of elimination. Kirsten believes that the 2009 champion can mount a comeback. "We still have a chance," he said.

Today's match

New York, 8.00 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD T20Is
Played: 1
Pakistan 1 | Canada 0

Resilient South Africa prevails as a nervy Bangladesh implodes

Agence France-Presse
NEW YORK

South Africa defeated Bangladesh by four runs in another low-scoring game at the T20 World Cup on Monday, a result likely to spark fresh debate over the suitability of the pitch being used in New York.

South Africa was restricted to 113 for six in its 20 overs. Heinrich Klaasen top-scored with 46 while pacer Tanzim Hasan Sakib came up with career-best figures of three for 18.

Three in a row

However, Bangladesh could only manage 109 for seven in reply as the Proteas wrapped up a third win in as many Group D games.

Chasing a target of 114, Bangladesh couldn't get going against the South African pace battery in the initial stages. It was struggling at 50 for four by the 10th over, losing Tanzid Hasan, skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto, Shakib Al Hasan and Liton Das.

Regal show: Maharaj delivered a superb final over to help the Proteas sneak home by four runs. AP

However, Towhid Hridoy and Mahmudullah steadied the ship, adding 44 for the fifth wicket before the former fell leg-before to Kagiso Rabada for 37 (34b, 2x4, 2x6).

Bangladesh scored seven off the penultimate over and needed 11 off the final one bowled by Keshav Maharaj.

With the pressure building, Jaker Ali and Mahmudullah were caught at long-on while going for big hits. The latter was left heartbroken as his shot was taken superbly by Aiden Markram near the boundary.

Needing six off the last ball, Taskin Ahmed could only get a single.

Earlier, Tanzim and Taskin (two for 19) reduced the Proteas, who had opted to bat, to 23 for four. The Proteas had been 12 for four against the Dutch on the same pitch last Saturday.

The revival

However, Heinrich Klaasen and David Miller, celebrating his 35th birthday, came to their team's rescue with a 79-run partnership for the fifth wicket.

Klaasen's 46 off 44 deliveries contained two fours and three sixes before he was castled by Taskin.

Miller, who had played a match-winning knock against Netherlands, was sent back four runs later. The left-hander's 38-ball 29 had a four and six each.

Though Klaasen and Miller's knocks took South Africa only to 113, it proved enough despite Bangladesh's best efforts.

The scores: South Africa 113/6 in 20 overs (Klaasen 46, Miller 29, Tanzim 3/18, Taskin 2/19) bt Bangladesh 109/7 in 20 overs (Hridoy 37, Rabada 2/19, Maharaj 3/27, Nortje 2/17); **Toss:** South Africa; **PoM:** Klaasen.

Verstappen completes a hat-trick at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve

CANADIAN GP

Reuters
MONTREAL

Red Bull's triple World champion Max Verstappen completed a hat-trick at the Canadian Grand Prix on a wet, wild and tricky Sunday at the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve.

Verstappen, who started on the front row alongside Mercedes pole-sitter George Russell, stayed clear of trouble on a day of changing conditions, snatching the lead from McLaren's Lando Norris on the final pit stops.

The Dutchman then grimly hung on to claim his sixth victory from nine races this season and the 60th of his Formula One career.

Brilliant drive

It was another brilliant drive from the 26-year-old who dealt with constantly changing weather, pit stop battles and challenges from McLaren and Mercedes while wrestling with his Red Bull's suspension.

Familiar sight: Verstappen registered his sixth win of the season. GETTY IMAGES

After Ferrari's Carlos Sainz and Williams' Alex Albon came together, bringing out the safety car for a second time, Verstappen pulled away on restart and finished 3.879 seconds ahead of Norris while Russell won a nail-biting duel with teammate Lewis Hamilton on the last few laps to complete the podium.

"Not easy but we did it," said Verstappen over the team radio. "We had to be on top of our calls and I think, as a team, it went really well today.

"I love it, that was a lot of fun. Those kind of races you need them once in a while," said Verstappen.

The teams return to Europe, with Verstappen opening up a 56-point advantage over Ferrari's Charles Leclerc at the top of the drivers' standings while Red Bull moved 49 clear of Ferrari for the constructors' crown.

Both Ferraris failed to finish on Sunday, with Sainz losing control of his car on the wet track and hitting the barrier while Charles Leclerc retired after struggling with an engine issue.

The results: 1. Verstappen (Red Bull); 2. Norris (McLaren) + 3.879; 3. Russell (Mercedes) 4.317; 4. Hamilton (Mercedes) 4.915; 5. Piastri (McLaren) 10.199; 6. Alonso (Aston Martin) 17.510; 7. Stroll (Aston Martin) 23.625; 8. Ricciardo (RB) 28.672; 9. Gasly (Alpine) 30.021; 10. Ocon (Alpine) 30.313; 11. Hulkenberg (Haas) 30.824; 12. Magnussen (Haas) 31.253; 13. Bottas (Stake) 40.487; 14. Tsunoda (RB) 52.694; +1 lap: 15. Zhou (Stake).

DNF: Sainz (Ferrari); Albon (Williams); Perez (Red Bull); Leclerc (Ferrari); Sergeant (Williams).

Standings:

Drivers: 1. Verstappen 194; 2. Leclerc 138; 3. Norris 131; 4. Sainz 108; 5. Perez 107.

Constructors: 1. Red Bull 301; 2. Ferrari 252; 3. McLaren 212; 4. Mercedes 123; 5. Aston Marin 58.

INBRIEF

Celtics hold off Mavericks for 2-0 NBA Finals lead

Boston Celtics thwarted a desperate Dallas rally in the final minutes to beat the Mavericks 105-98 on Sunday and take a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven NBA Finals. Jrue Holiday led Boston's scoring with 26 points and the Celtics withstood a 32-point triple-double from Mavericks star Luka Doncic to post a second straight win on their home floor. The series shifts to Dallas for game three on Wednesday.

Three fans get jail term for racist abuse against Vinicius

Three Valencia fans were handed eight-month jail terms Monday for racist abuse towards Real Madrid star Vinicius Junior at a La Liga match last year that sparked international outrage, a court ruling showed. The defendants, who were not identified, were convicted of an offence against moral integrity with the aggravating factor of racially-motivated discrimination and slapped with a two-year match ban, the Valencia court said.

LIVE TELECAST

Hockey: Pro League: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 3.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 10.30 p.m.

T20 World Cup: Star Sports 1, 2 (SD & HD), Star Sports 3 & Hotstar, 8 p.m., 5 a.m. & 6 a.m. (Wednesday)

Gurpreet's India faces mighty Qatar

Stimac's men, if they win on Tuesday, are in pole position to enter the next phase thanks to their superior goal difference over Afghanistan

FIFA WC QUALIFIERS

Press Trust of India
DOHA

The influential Sunil Chhetri's absence will be a difficult void to fill as the Indian football team enters a transition phase with a crucial FIFA World Cup qualifying match against heavyweight Qatar here on Tuesday.

The 39-year-old Chhetri called time on his glorious international career by playing in last week's fixture against Kuwait in Kolkata, which ended in a goal-less draw.

The Indian team will be led by the 32-year-old first-choice goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, who has appeared in 72 internationals and is the most experienced player in the 23-member squad.

At the helm: Gurpreet has been handed the captain's armband as India enters new phase without Chhetri. FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

An acid test awaits India as it runs into two-time Asian champion at the Jassim bin Hamad Stadium, knowing well that a defeat will end its campaign and dash all hopes of securing a maiden entry into the third round of the WC Qualifiers.

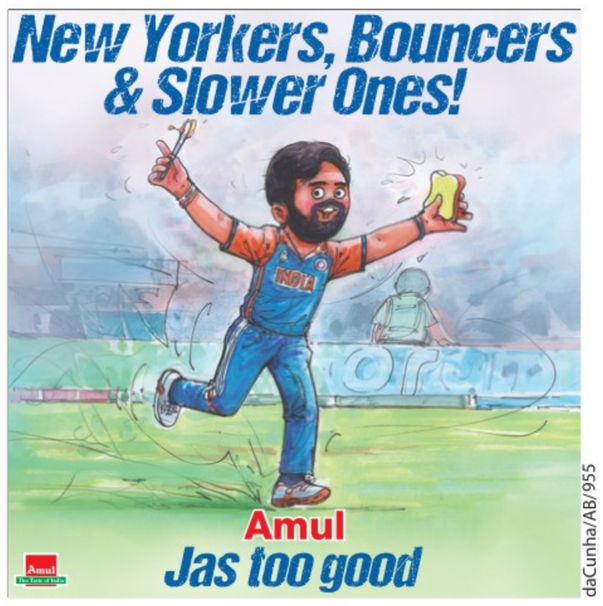
India is in the second spot with five points and a goal difference of -3. Afghanistan, which played out a 0-0 draw with Qatar, is in third spot with a goal difference of -10.

Group-topper Qatar has named a largely youthful squad. "We have watched the Afghanistan-Qatar game and will work on the attacking transition, with a hope to start scoring goals from the chances we create," said Stimac.

If India beats Qatar, it will be in pole position to make the third round and a direct spot at the Asian Cup thanks to its superior goal difference over Afghanistan.

If India draws against Qatar, it will qualify for the third round only if the match between Kuwait and Afghanistan also ends in a draw. In that scenario, India will finish second in the group with six points, the same as Afghanistan, but with a better goal difference.

Match starts at 9.15 p.m. IST.



BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Rapid chess tournament on June 23
Champions Chess Academy will conduct a rapid chess tournament for those in the U-17 and U-10 categories on June 23 at the Academy premises in Krishna Garden, Rajarajeshwari Nagar. Entries close on June 21. For details, call: 9845466416.

Mandya Dist. gets the better of Halasur BC
Shashank Gowda and Shashank Raj scored 19 and 18 points respectively as Mandya District beat Halasur BC 64-60 in the State C-division men's basketball league championship here on Monday.

Thumping wins for Rising HC and SAI STC Madiekri
Rising Star Hockey Club thrashed Chinmaya Vidyalaya-B 12-2 in a boys match of the Hockey Karnataka U-16 7s tournament here on Monday.
In a girls encounter, Sports Authority of India STC Madikeri walloped National Public School, Rajajinagar 15-0.

Bajarang Bali registers victory
Bajarang Bali defeated ECF FC 5-3 in the KSFA D-division football league championship here on Monday.

The results: Technico Junior 1 (Anish Sekhar 33) bt Sathya FC 0; BPSS 3 (Afzaan 25+2, Kushal 33, Abhay 58) bt BGF Sporting 0; Bajarang Bali 5 (Sepili 5, 60+2, Rahul Munda 15, Aum Jayesh Kini 32, Medosey 49) bt ECF FC 3 (Manosh 12, 40, Meban 60+1).

Kreedakshetra triumphs
Kreedakshetra defeated PVV in a rain-curtailed final to win the U-14 title at the Save Water Cup cricket tournament here on Monday.

The scores (final): Kreedakshetra 169 for nine in 30 overs (Vikram 48, Vidhat 36 n.o., K. Atharv 3/29) bt PVV 75 for five in 17 overs. *Kreedakshetra won on better run-rate after rain stopped play.*

Special awards:

Player of the tournament: Tanshh Krishna (Kreedakshetra); **best batter:** Tanshh Krishna (Kreedakshetra); **best bowler:** Samarth Rayabagi (Kreedakshetra); **best wicket-keeper:** Athreya Bhat (Kreedakshetra).

MCA hon. president Kale passes away in New York

CRICKET

Sports Bureau
MUMBAI

Amol Kale, the Mumbai Cricket Association honorary president, passed away following a cardiac arrest in New York. He was 47.

Kale, along with MCA secretary Ajinkya Naik and apex council member Suraj Samat, had watched India's win against Pakistan in T20 World Cup from the stadium on Sunday.

Kale was elected as the MCA president, after defeating World Cup champion Sandeep Patil in a closely-contested battle in October 2022. He was instrumental in the MCA deciding to double Mumbai's senior men's match-fees starting the forthcoming season.

Hailing from Nagpur,

Amol Kale.

Kale was based in Mumbai for well over a decade, setting up a variety of businesses. He was considered to be a close aide of Devendra Fadnavis, Maharashtra's deputy chief minister.

Besides being at the helm of MCA's affairs, Kale was also a co-promoter of the Indian Street Premier League, a tennis-ball franchise cricket league launched earlier this year.